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The Canadian INDIA TIMES

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Indo-British singles rush to marry

Chandigarh (IBS) - The anticipated victory of the Conservative Party led by Mrs. Thatcher in the next general election in Britain has caused a kind of panic among Indians-boys and girls - settled in that country and of marriageable age. For they fear that Mrs. Thatcher would place curbs on the import of fiancees and spouses.

As a result, quite a number of young men and women have come here to get married. A smart, young girl settled in Britain said here that she was determined to get married during this trip because the Conservatives "will most probably want those settled there to marry among themselves rather than bring more Indians to the country. Not that there are no nice Indian boys there but my parents insist on a Khatri match and I have not been able to find one bloody eligible Khatri there."

The response to matrimonial advertisements on behalf of girls is described as very good because there are quite a number of qualified young men who feel their salvation lies only across the seas. So, a UK-settled girl can get a good catch even if she has a crooked nose or a squint, or both, because of the lure of profitable employment abroad.

The going for boys is however not so good. The people are jittery after witnessing and hearing tales about many cases in which girls go abroad only to find that their husbands are already married to white girls or are living with them. This also happens to girls settled there. They marry boys here and help them settle in Britain, but as soon as the boys feel settled some of them desert their wives for fairer skins.

One exception among those from abroad here was a girl who got 385 letters in response to an advertisement her parents had inserted in a newspaper. But she refused to consider even one.

"If I marry I would rather have someone marry me for myself and not for an emigration certificate. So I will choose a boy living in India and willing to keep me here," she said.

Parties claim murder plots

New Delhi, December 9 - The Speaker of the lower house of Parliament charged yesterday that members of former prime minister Indira Gandhi's party were conspiring to murder Prime Minister Morarji Desai.

The allegation brought an angry denial from Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Congress Party and a counter-charge that a minister in Mr. Desai's Cabinet had contacted the underworld in Bihar State to assassinate the former prime minister.

K.S. Hegde, Speaker of the Lok Sabha (lower house), told Parliament he had been informed by Delhi's police commissioner about the possible attempt on Mr. Desai's life and had ordered tighter security in and outside Parliament.

Speaking for Mrs. Gandhi's party, C.M. Stephen denied the allegation as mischievous, malicious and baseless.

Alleging that there had been a plot against Mrs. Gandhi, Mr. Stephen said he had told Mr. Desai about it.

Mr. Desai himself made no comment on the exchanges but in a different context spoke of an air of violence in the country.

He said police had been posted outside the homes of 16 members of the committee which had held Mrs. Gandhi guilty of breach of privilege and contempt of the lower house.

But the opposition alleged that the police guard had been mounted outside the homes of only the four members who had disagreed with the committee's verdict.

One member said: "The Prime Minister has spoken untruths and action should be taken against him."

Mrs. Gandhi was in a Delhi magistrate's court yesterday making a statement in two cases against her for refusing to testify before a Government inquiry into the excesses alleged to have been committed during her 21-month emergency rule.

The lower house, which debated for four hours on Thursday whether to consider the privileges committee report, finally decided yesterday to discuss it and to hear Mrs. Gandhi speak in her defence.

Indira may be asked to apologise

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (UNI) - Following the adverse findings of the Privilege Committee Mrs. Indira Gandhi, now a member of the Lok Sabha (Lower House), may be asked to apologise for her "conduct" in seeking to obstruct some officials collecting information for a parliamentary question on Maruti affairs during her term of office.

The report of the Committee, headed by Samar Guha (Janata) and presented to Parliament last week, was discussed by the Union Cabinet Tuesday but no final view was taken on the subject.

Parliament's power in this regard is unlimited. It can reprimand, admonish or suspend her from membership and even sentence her to imprisonment for the duration of the session. But informed sources indicated today that the government would proceed in this matter in such a way as to ensure that the punishment is commensurate with the offence that could be taken in this regard.

The Indian School Boys Wrestling Team with the Prime Minister. The team participated for the first time in the fourth world School Boys Wrestling Championship held recently in Mexico. It won two Gold and five Silver medals and was declared runners up.

IN PARLIAMENT

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: The opening day of the winter session of the Lok Sabha witnessed a walk out by the Congress (I) members protesting against the Prime Minister's stand on the Aligarh communal situation.

The walk out was led by C.M. Stephen. Mrs. Indira Gandhi was not available in the house since she left the house barely half an hour after being sworn-in.

The house was discussing a motion calling the government's attention to the increasing trend of communal riots in the country and in Aligarh in particular for the last two months. There were allegations that the RSS had a hand in fomenting communal violence in Aligarh from the Congress (I) benches and the Janata members alleged that the real cause behind the riots was the Congress (I) which was trying to create a law and order situation in the country to discredit the Janata government.

The Opposition demanded a statement from the Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, who declined to oblige on the plea that he could not do so until the report of the judicial inquiry was available fixing responsibility.

Thereupon, a walk out was staged by the Congress (I) complaining that the government was withholding information from the house.

2,289 Lives Lost

A total of 2,289 persons lost their lives in recent floods in 10 states, the Lok Sabha was informed by the Minister for Agriculture.

The government has so far released advance plan assistance totalling Rs. 226.95 crores to eight states for meeting expenditure necessitated by the floods. About 92.35 lakh hectares of cropped area had been affected. But the overall food production and supply position of the country was good.

The states which suffered the maximum number of casualties included West Bengal (813), U.P. (702), Himachal Pradesh (272), and Bihar (160).

NO CHINESE REQUEST

There had been no specific request from China on the purchase of wheat from India, though the government had seen press reports to the effect.

CHILD YEAR

A national plan of action has been drawn up to observe the International Year of the Child. Under the plan the programme for the welfare of destitute children included provision of institutional services like orphanages and non-institutional service relating to foster care.

78 KILLED IN PLANE CRASH

The Lok Sabha paid homage to 78 persons killed including Army jawans, Air Force crew and a young Leh girl on November 19 in an air crash involving an Air Force plane.

The Defence Minister said Rs. 1 Lakh each were being paid to the families of all the victims and a court of inquiry has been ordered.

The AN 12, Russian made transport aircraft, was engaged in a routine air maintenance mission to Leh from Chandigarh on an airlift operation.

SMALLER HOUSES

The government is planning to construct smaller houses for ministers with 2,000 sq. feet of living space.

RURAL LANDLESS

A total of 3.69 lakhs house sites for rural landless was allotted by the government after the emergency.

More than 30.23 lakh rural landless had got physical possession of house sites allotted to them and about 41.50 lakh eligible landless are awaiting such allotments.

There is a provision of Rs. 500 crores in the draft sixth plan for the purpose.

The ailing public sector

New Delhi — Provisional figures on public sector undertakings for the year 1977-78 collated by the Union Finance Ministry reveal a disquieting picture.

Profits before tax have fallen from Rs. 4,400 million ($550 million) in 1976-77 to Rs. 2580 million ($322 million).

Post-tax profits have come down from Rs. 2400 million ($300 million) to a mere Rs. 250 million ($31 million).

There is a little over a tenth of the previous year's profits and less than a fifth of the profits of 1975-76. In retrospect, some of the euphoria about the public sector "having come to age" seems to be premature.

FREE FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

In order to help the recent immigrants to settle down with minimum discomfort, The Canadian India Times has decided to send the paper free for three months to all landed immigrants who have stayed in Canada or USA FOR ONLY LESS THAN TWO MONTHS. We expect to publish several articles under news items that will be of special interest to new immigrants.

Therefore if you are a recent arrival in North America on an immigrant visa fill in the following coupon and send it to us.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....CITY.....

DATE OF ARRIVAL.....

COUNTRY FROM WHICH CAME.....

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND.....

F.W. Page, Chairman of the British Aerospace Group and India's Defence Secretary S.K. Banerjee, exchanging documents after signing the Jaguar agreement in New Delhi.
The Opposition group in parliament is demanding a probe into the Jaguar deal for alleged pay offs.

Congress avoids split

By George Mathew

New Delhi - The three-day deliberations of the Congress Working Committee under the Presidentship of Swaran Singh came out with a resolution which avoided the expected split in the party and yet inviting all congressmen to unite.

The Resolution neither referred to the unity call by Mrs. Indira Gandhi on the eve of the CWC meeting nor to her Congress (I) party. There were dissentions even for such a sugar-quoted resolution as unwarranted and those who opposed included Y.B. Chavan, Leader of the Congress Party in Parliament. The resolution was, however, passed by 11 votes to six.

In her call for unity between the two congress parties, Mrs. Gandhi said that "friends" had been making efforts for unity.

There were renewed efforts by the Karnataka Chief Minister, Dev Raj Urs and the former Maharastra Chief Minister, V.P. Naik, after her Chikamangalur election victory.

Mrs. Gandhi said; "I have always been in favour of unity and think that it should not be difficult to work out suitable modalities for the two parties to come together to meet the present crisis in the country with courage, conviction and determination."

When the CWC met under the shadow of such a timely call issued by the former Prime Minister, speculations were afoot that the party is poised for a split and the resultant floor-crossing would strengthen Mrs. Gandhi.

But on the second day Y.B. Chavan turned the table. He firmly opposed the unity call and posed the question why a similar call given by Swaran Singh four months ago was not being discussed. He took the stand that if it favoured any truck with Congress (I), he would firmly oppose it. His firm stand forced the others to withdraw in seclusion. There were thread-bare discussion on every word that mattered in the proposed unity resolution. This delayed even the press briefing.

At last the waiting newsmen were told that the CWC has decided to "fully explore" the possibilities of bringing about unity among Congressmen under the banner of the Indian National Congress. The resolution sounded as a compromise formula to satisfy both anti and pro-unity factions in the party.

SANJAY'S VIEW

Sanjay Gandhi was against Mrs. Gandhi issuing a unity call. Now he feels that her unity call has done more harm to her than good since it gave the Congress another opportunity to discuss and blame her for the "emergency excesses" and repeat the same old charges of "authoritarianism."

A.R. Antulay, AICC(I) general Secretary, has however, said that the Congress (I) was "happy" over the CWC resolution.

The former Maharashtra Chief Minister, Vasantrao Patil, has said that the two congress parties would unite in two months time and such a unity alone could give it strength to fight the Janata party.

CONGRESSMEN SORE

The AICC general Secretary, Mr. Tulsi Dasappa, said after his party adopting the resolution "Mrs. Gandhi will be perplexed. The problem starts in their party today."

A.K. Antony, who resigned as Kerala Chief Minister against the Parliamentary Board's pro-Mrs. Gandhi decision on Chickmangalur by-election, said; "we will continue to fight within the party. Once we sacrificed our principles and the present difficulties are its result. We will not do it again."

Mr. Ruptate, a CWC member, contended that Mrs. Gandhi wanted to end the restiveness that some repentent souls felt in her party. The Congress has increasingly become relevant and her strategy was to destroy it and emerge as the only alternative to the Janata party. "The nation was barely saved the last time. If we permit it to happen again, we will be doomed for ever for an entirely different political system would govern us."

Those who opposed the unity call even in the present form because it might give the impression that the party was responding to Mrs. Gandhi's call were: Y.B. Chavan, Dr. Karan Singh, Hitendra Desai, Chandrajit Yadav, A.K. Antony and Priya Ranjan Das Munshi.

Billa, Ranga plead not guilty

New Delhi, (UNI): Billa and Ranga, both accused in the Chopra children murder case, Tuesday pleaded not guilty to the charges of kidnapping, rape, wrongful confinement and murder.

The two accused, who were produced before additional session Judge D.C. Aggarwal, claimed trial in the case.

Both accused were charged under sections 365 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 364, 366 and 302 read with section 34 (kidnapping, kidnapping in order to murder, inducing a woman to compel her marriage, rape, murder).

Announcing his order Mr. Aggarwal said that he was of the opinion that there was ground for presuming that both the accused committed the offences as defined in sections 365, 366, 364 302 all read with section 34 and under section 376, IPC. The charges should be framed accordingly.

Both accused signed statements made by them to the effect that they pleaded not guilty and claimed trial.

Billa and Ranga had recently made confessional statements in the case before Metropolitan Magistrate P.K. Dham.

Ranga, however, moved an application Tuesday stating that the confession by him before the magistrate on September 20 and 21 was not voluntary but made under threats and pressure from the Delhi police.

Asked about the charges framed against him, Ranga told the court that they were completely false and "a white lie".

Billa urged the court that his handcuffs and fetters be removed when he remained in jail lock-up from where there were no chances of escaping.

In one of the most gruesome tragedies in the capital in recent years, a 17-year-old daughter and 15-year-old son of a naval officer were done to death on August 26 evening after being allegedly abducted from near their Dhaula Kuan residence in south Delhi.

The bodies of Geeta Chopra, a student of Delhi University, and Sanjay Chopra, who studied in a school, were found on Aug. 29 morning in a forest off upper ridge road. Their bodies bore multiple stab wounds.

India's n... exp...

New Delhi - About two million persons have migrated to West Asia and North Africa since November, 1973, and of these, one in every ten is an Indian.

A study by the International Monetary Fund has brought out this fact.

In 1976, the Government of India created an overseas employment cell in the Directorate General of Employment and Training. For the purpose of handling in an organised manner the "export" of manpower through private recruiting agencies.

There were 382 such private recruiting agencies registered with the Government of India in February, 1978. Three months later, in May of the same year, the number of recruiting agencies had risen to 503.

IN PARL...

NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLY FROM THE U.S.

New Delhi: The Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, expressed the hope in the Rajya Sabha that the U.S. Government would resume supply of nuclear fuel within two or three months.

Two requests for enriched uranium (nuclear fuel for Tarapur atomic plant) - one for 16.8 tonnes and the other for 19.8 tonnes were pending with the US Government.

Mr. Desai said when the law passed by the US Congress come into force the US President would not be able to give fuel to India. The law prohibiting supply to Tarapur was definitely a breach of the agreement between India and the U.S.

The Prime Minister said that he had told Mr. Carter that the legislation was absolutely ultra vires of the agreement because the agreement preceded it.

If the U.S. stopped supplies India would find ways and means to run the Tarapur plant, he said.

Mr. Desai made it clear that India would accept the safeguards against nuclear nonproliferation only if the safeguards were "applicable to all" nuclear countries.

U.N. Mission

The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) is likely to provide financial support amounting to $60 million under the second country agreement to be entered into for intensive work for family planning programmes in selected districts in India.

Indian Missions

India has spent Rs. 25.89 crores in 1977-78 against Rs. 19.37 crores in 1975-76 towards maintenance of Indian missions or embassies abroad.

A scheme to acquire or construct property at various places to reduce expenditure on rent is being considered by the government.

Indian Satellite

An India-built satellite would be launched in 1979 for remote sensing of the earth. The pictures taken by the satellite will be used for application in forestry, hydrology, geology and science.

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Recruiting agencies were registered in order to avoid the menace of bogus recruitment which landed prospective emigrants into trouble.

More than 78,000 Indian workers were permitted to go abroad between January 1977 and June 1978, mostly to work on various projects being handled by Indian private and public sector companies.

In addition, over 2000 experts were "exported" to 17 countries of West Asia and North Africa during 1977.

During 1972-73, Indians abroad remitted Rs. 4790 million back home (about $600 million). The volume of these remittances shot up to approximately Rs. 39,590 million during 1977-78 (about $5,000 million).

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ALIGARH RIOTS

The Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, refuted in the Rajya Sabha that communal incidents had been increasing since the Janata Party assumed office. He was answering a day-long debate on the calling attention motion on "the increasing trend of communal riots in the country, with particular reference to recent Aligarh riots."

He quoted figures to show that there had been more such incidents in the past: viz 1967 (196), 1968 (346), 1969 (519), 1970 (512), 1971 (321), 1972 (140), 1973 (242), 1974 (248), 1975 (205), 1976 (169) and 1977 (188). There were 174 such incidents up to November 1978.

"There is no difference of opinion between the Centre and state governments on this question. Nobody had found fault with the government during the last 19 months," Mr. Desai said and assured the house that the government was doing its level best to see that communal frenzies did not occur.

Gold Policy

The Government would await the report of the review committee before launching on any new gold policy, the Finance Minister said in reply to a question.

The Reserve Bank has since suspended further auctions of the gold from government stocks pending a review.

Foreign Equity

Dilution of foreign equity up to 60 per cent has already been completed by 159 foreign companies out of 230 companies against whom directives had been issued by the government.

About 68 companies have diluted equity up to 74 per cent or 51 per cent. The total number of companies to whom directives had been issued to dilute equity to 74 per cent or 51 per cent was 194.

Tourist Traffic

There was an increase of 10.3 per cent in tourist traffic from the Arab countries in the first six months of the year.

This was achieved by opening a tourist office in Kuwait and introduction of direct air service between Dubai and Trivandrum in addition to air services from West Asia and Bombay.

Janata's hat trick

Bombay (IBS) - The Janata Party romped home with 85 of the 140 seats in the Bombay Municipal Corporation elections.

Saddened by this Congress (I) victory in a neighbouring State and fearing a change in the pattern of voting, Janata leaders of Bombay were full of smiles Thursday when the final result came in.

This was the Janata's third successive victorious performance in the city of Bombay where it had bagged all the seats to the Lok Sabha in the 1977 general election and repeated the performance by winning all the 34 seats in the State Assembly in February this year.

Bombay's 4.37 million voters also cut across all barriers - linguistic, caste, class and parochial - by giving a drubbing to the local Shiv Sena Party whose slogan is "Maharashtra for Maharashtrians." The Sena had fielded 117 candidates but only 21 of them were elected. It had won 39 seats in the last election.

The two Congress parties which formed an alliance for the civic elections won only 25. They had fielded candidates for all the 140 seats. The Congress led by Swaran Singh was badly mauled: it won only eight seats against 22 it had in the last House. The Congress (I) strength was also reduced from 23 to 17.

As many as 13 women have been elected to the new House in which partywise affiliations are:

Janata & allies: 85 (Janata 67, Rebel Congress led by Chief Minister Sharad Pawar 13, Rebel League 3, RPI (Kamble Group) 1, CPI-M, 1);

Shiv Sena: 21 Congress (I) 17, Congress (S) 8, CPI 3, Muslim League 2 and Independents 4.

widow remarriage

Nagpur, Dec. 11 (UNI) - Two hundred widows, wishing to remarry, will get financial aid from the Maharashtra government during the current financial year under a new scheme to encourage widow remarriages.

Announcing this in the state assembly Wednesday Social Welfare Minister A.S. Kasture said that suitable rules were being framed to decide eligibility for assistance under the scheme.

A budgetary provision of Rs two lakhs had already been made, he said.

BBC demands compensation

New Delhi (IBS) - The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and Visnews have demanded compensation for the injury and distress caused to their cameraman in the alleged police attack on a group of journalists covering the campaign for the Chikmagalur by-election in Karnataka.

In a letter to Karnataka Chief Minister Devraj Urs, the executives of the two organisations said that on November 1, BBC correspondent Mark Tully and Visnews cameraman Jagdish Kapoor were filming a report on Mrs. Indira Gandhi's by-election campaign in Karnataka. "We are gravely concerned about the incidents that followed and must lodge a formal protest in the strongest terms."

"Tully informs us that the police after clashing with a group of demonstrators turned on a nearby group of journalists and assaulted them in a completely unprovoked attack. The police fired teargas canisters directly at cameramen and photographers, including our news team."

"During this assault Kapoor was wounded in the stomach and later taken to hospital. Although the police had claimed that they only fired pistols over the heads of the crowd, medical evidence from two qualified doctors indicated that Kapoor received a bullet wound in the stomach and that fragments of the bullet were still in his body."

Mrs. Gandhi is guilty

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: The former Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has been held guilty of serious breach of privilege and contempt of the Parliament by the Committee of Privileges of the Lok Sabha.

A 15-member Committee of Privileges with Samar Guha as its chairman, was appointed by the last Lok Sabha on a motion of privilege by Madhu Limye which stated: "The Maruti question referred to the Shah Commission was my question. I faced a number of difficulties in getting it admitted. Finally it was put down for answer in a terribly mutilated form in the winter session of 1974. When I protested, it was again put down for answer in the budget session of 1975. But the answer was evasive."

The charges against Mrs. Gandhi and others was that they allegedly obstructed, intimidated, harrassed and instituted false cases against certain officers who were sent to the Maruti Company (the small car project of Sanjay Gandhi, the Ex-P.M.'s son) for collecting certain information for preparing answers to questions raised in the Lok Sabha.

The Committee has come to the "inescapable conclusion" that Mrs. Gandhi misused her office of Prime Minister with an intention to protect the interest of the Maruti Limited controlled and managed by her son."

However, the Committee has left it to the "collective wisdom of the House to award such punishment as it may deem fit."

Others involved in the findings along with Mrs. Gandhi are: B.K. Dhawan, former additional private secretary to the former Prime Minister, and D. Sen, former director of the Central Bureau of Investigation.

The 15-member committee consisted of nine Janata Party members, three from Congress and one each from Congress (I) and AIDMK and one independent.

While 11 members supported the recommendation of the Committee, three submitted dissenting notes. One Congress questioned the propriety of the present (sixth) Lok Sabha taking up a privilege motion of the previous (fifth) Lok Sabha and the remaining three (Congress (I), AIDMK, Congress) thought the verdict would be "unsustainable in law or in facts."

The Speaker has given consent for a full discussion of the Privilege Committee's report.

According to legal experts the Parliament enjoys absolute powers to impose suitable punishments on any member found guilty of breach of privilege or of contempt of either houses. The punishment could be a reprimand, imprisonment, expulsion or suspension.

Mrs. Juanita M. Kreps, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, being received by Mr. Mohan Dharia, Minister for Commerce and Civil Supplies, on her arrival on a 3-day official visit.

THE CANADIAN INDIA TIMES

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CHOICE

A few by-elections in India and the recent municipal election in Bombay enables one to test the strength of the ruling Janata Party as against the principal opposition, the Congress (I). While Mrs. Gandhi won a seat to Lok Sabha from the South, two recent by-elections in the North showed that Janata is favoured there. In the Bombay municipal elections also the Janata did very well.

All the above evidence indicates that Mrs. Gandhi and her Congress is still paying the price due for the political excesses she committed at the advice of her immature and not-so-intelligent son and his friends. Also it proves that despite many failures of the Janata Party in power, the people in the North, who were more directly affected by the emergency rule, consider the Janata as the lesser of the two evils.

It will be interesting to watch how political opinions will vary in the next couple of years before a general election is called. Both parties will have to work hard to gain the popular support they would like to get. Gone are the days when the ruling party could take it for granted that they will form the Government again.

Ironically this has been one of the spin-off effects of the emergency rule and its aftermath. Indian democracy now has a viable opposition and the people of India have a real choice. Though Congress Party has been weakened, democracy has strengthened. It will be in the interests of the people of India to see that this political set, where a real alternative to the ruling party is ever present, is maintained.

Court bill upheld

By George Mathew

New Delhi: The Supreme Court of India has held that the Parliament has the legislative competence to set up special courts.

The seven-judge bench of the Supreme Court headed by the Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud, was giving its ruling on a reference made by the President of India on the subject.

The "Special Courts Bill, 1978", which provides for such courts for speedy trial of offences allegedly committed by persons holding high political and public offices during emergency, was introduced in the Parliament. Following the consensus of the discussion it was decided to refer the Bill to the Supreme Court for its opinion.

Accordingly the President of India made a reference to the Supreme Court under article 143(1) of the Constitution for consideration of the question whether the Bill or any of its provisions, if enacted, would be constitutionally invalid.

The court held that the Bill was valid and constitutional in all respects except clause 7 to the extent it provides that a retired high court judge could be appointed to preside over a special court, and in making the appointment of the judge for special courts the Chief Justice of India was only to be consulted by the Union Government and the appointment could be made without his concurrence. This and other observations by the court which came up during the hearing were accepted by the Government counsel and the court was assured that the clause in question would be suitably modified.

However, one of the judges of the bench Justice P.N. Shinghal, gave a separate note of dissent and held that because certain clauses as pointed out by other judges were defective the Bill was invalid.

Persecution of Christians alleged

By George Mathew

A Bill to prohibit conversion from one religious faith to another by use of force or inducement or by fraudulent means was passed by the Legislative Assembly of Arunachal Pradesh. The Bill became law after it received the President's assent recently.

The Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, stated in Kohima on November 4 that he would like to "introduce a similar Bill even at the Centre."

At a recent Seminar in New Delhi, organised as part of the Second Juhanon Mar Thoma Memorial Lectures, the "ARUNACHAL PRADES FREEDOM OF RELIGION ACT 1978" was discussed in all its legal and social aspects.

The discussion centered on (i) whether it was at all necessary to enact such a legislation, (ii) whether it betrayed the spirit of secularism as enshrined in our Constitution, (iii) whether it infringed the fundamental right and right of self-determination and (iv) whether human rights were involved in such a legislation.

Some of the speakers who were vehement in their criticism held that the Act was aimed at a particular community, it was anti-Christian, it discriminated against religions and the legislation was not maintainable in a court of law.

Mrs. Rano Sheiza, M.P. from Nagaland, said the problem rested not on the professed aims of the Act, but in the fears of its actual implementation. The Act makes conversion a cognizable offence and leaves its interpretation to an Inspector of Police.

The main burden of Mrs. Sheiza's presentation was the possible deliberate or otherwise interpretation of certain terms used in the Act.

"Force has been defined in the Act as including "threat of divine displeasure or social ex-communication," inducement included the grant of any benefit, "pecuniary or otherwise" and fraud included any "misrepresentation."

Dr. Rahmatulla Khan of the Jawaharlal University, an expert on International Law, was of the opinion that the title "Freedom of Religion Act" was itself misleading. It called for "Freedom of Religion" by preventing conversion which "is part of the practice of every religion."

The interpretation of the Act has been vested in an ordinary police official of the rank of Inspector of Police which was unwise.

On India's secularism, Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer of the Supreme Court said the founding fathers, if the nation could have a father, said India was secular. Part IV of the Directive Principles confirmed the secular character of the Constitution.

The word "secular" in the Constitution carried more meaning than what the dictionary provided. Courts in the U.S.A. have held that secularism meant that the state "shall not have anything to do with religion."

But in Indian courts Hinduism has been used in many contest and Hindu and Islamic laws have been admitted.

Mr. Justice Iyer said it was difficult to define "who is an Hindu and who is a Christian." You can belong to the various faiths and even be an atheist and still call yourself a Hindu. A friend in Boston told him that there were even "marxist Christians."

We have the Christian community who have been here with the tradition of indigenous christianity for centuries, something which was unparallel in Europe or elsewhere.

The Government proclaims India as the world's most secular nation and yet the Prime Minister thought it necessary that such an anti-conversion Bill to be enacted for the whole of India.

Bishop Chrysostom, who led a delegation to the state as the Chairman of the National Christian Council, said religion was basic to man and anything that affected his religion became a sensitive issue.

He said in Arunachal Pradesh Christians have been persecuted for being Christians. They were harassed, their houses demolished, churches destroyed and their basic freedom of worship was denied.

Dismissing this as an initial problem, the M.P. from Nagaland explained how Christian Nagas succeeded in achieving proper relationship between the two elements of culture and religion. No such problem existed in the neighbouring states like Mizoram.

The reason basic to this impasse was that Christianity was being looked upon as a foreign religion and the base for anti-national activities.

Rev. Msgr. D'Lima of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India, in a paper submitted for the Seminar, said forcible conversion militated against the very dignity of man which Christianity upheld. The magna carta given to the Catholic Church by the Second Vatican Council said: "The Church forbids that anyone should be forced to accept the faith or be induced or enticed by unworthy devices; as it like-wise strongly defends the right that one should be frightened away from the faith by unjust persecutions."

Prof V.V. John, Member of the Minorities Commission, said that the Commission was seized of the problem and the complaints of the Arunachal Pradesh Christians were being examined in all its aspects. He confirmed that the matter came within the purview of the Commission.

Summing up the consensus at the Seminar Dr. Rahmatulla Khan said the Act violated the freedom of religion guaranteed under the Constitution and also questioned the fundamental right of equality among the different religions. The secular character of the Constitution provided protection of all religions.

Besides representations to the authorities concerned, the Act in its legal substance could be challenged in the court of law.

But will litigation bring immediate relief to the suffering tribal Christians of Arunachal Pradesh was yet another question which remained unanswered. To quote the words of Mr. Justice Krishna Iyer who said that in India "law takes its own course and litigation takes a generation."

Business helped Indira

New Delhi (IBS) — The Intelligence Bureau at the Centre has reported to the Government that industrialists gave Mrs. Indira Gandhi Rs. 1,130 million for the general elections to the Lok Sabha in 1977 when she was Prime Minister. The report has listed the names of industrialists.

At the last meeting of the Cabinet, a Minister wanted "some action" against Mrs. Gandhi, but Morarji Desai is believed to have rejected the demand on the ground that all political parties took money from industrialists to fight elections.

In Patna, former Home Minister Charan Singh said that it was difficult for the Government to lay its hand on the money alleged to have been collected by Mrs. Gandhi during her regime.

Charan Singh said that when he was Home Minister he was told by investigating officials that most of her money was kept with industrialists. It was now difficult to lay hands it.

Vice Admiral Pereira who is at present Vice Chief of the Naval Staff will be granted the rank of Admiral when he assumes office as Chief of Naval Staff on February 28, 1979.

The

To bring the teachings of the Upanishads within the reach of ordinary man and to create order out of the chaos, uniformity out of a number of apparently differing religious principles and to synthesise the heterogenous elements and fuse them all into a single whole, is said to have been written by Vyas.

Various views prevail about the time of its completion. A large number of writers put it about 500 B.C. Whatever be the date, the controversy is futile because the significance of its teachings make it eternal, immortal. It is not restricted to any language, race or epoch. It caters to the thirst of all spiritual seekers and lays down a general code of conduct for realizing the purpose of life.

To quote Dr. Radhakrishnan "Millions of Hindus for centuries have found comfort in this great book Gita. It is a powerful shaping factor and has secured an assured place among the world's great scriptures. There is nothing exclusive about the Gita which should make it a gospel only for the Hindus... It has accordingly been translated in almost all the languages of the world."

Aldous Huxley considers Gita as "one of the clearest and most comprehensive summaries of the perennial philosophy ever to have been made. Hence its enduring value, not only for Indians, but for all mankind."

It is known as Bhagavad Gita as it is sung by the Lord. As the allegory goes: "The Upanishads are the cows. Lord Krishna is the cowherd. Arjuna is the calf. The Gita is the milk. The wise men are those who drink the milk of Gita."

Elaborating this popular allegory Mahadeo Desai writes: "Just as cows are of various hues and different stature but the milk yielded by them is the same, so the teachings of the various Upanishads all point to the One-ness of BRAHMAN. Maintaining if cows may not be possible for all - the laborious art of milking is also not commonly understood by all. But to partake of milk is the privilege of one and all. The choice of converting this milk into curd, butter and ghee is again in the hands of all. In similar manner, Gita may be treated as an easily available guide for life here and hereafter. Besides, the cows cannot be taken wherever one choose to go. In a preserved form, milk can be transported anywhere. The idea is that one who has imbibed the teachings of Gita need not take the trouble of probing into the rather tense contents of the Upanishads. Sri Krishna was gracious enough to clarify the abstract teachings of the Upanishads. Arjuna's craving for enlightement was the immediate cause of this gracious clarification".

People with a critical frame of mind are also not lacking. They charge Gita as leading to a fratricidal war; others would see in it as exhortation to inaction leading ultimately to a life of renunciation or 'SANNYAS' as the word is generally misunderstood. Dispassionate, rational minded people, however, seek to know what practical lessons Gita has to deliver.

A study of Gita has two aspects: (a) Historical, and (b) Ethical.

(a) Historically speaking, the teachings are said to have been imparted at KURUKSHETRA, a place about 200 miles North of Delhi (India) about 5000 years ago, just before the battle of Mahabharat started, by Lor

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The message of Gita

By R. P. Bhargava

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A study of Gita has two aspects: (a) Historical, and (b) Ethical.

(a) Historically speaking, the teachings are said to have been imparted at **KURUKSHETRA**, a place about 200 miles North of Delhi (India) about 5000 years ago, just before the battle of Mahabharat started, by Lord Krishna to Arjuna, who were 50 and 60 years old respectively at that time.

As detailed in Mahabharat, the Kauravas had very unfairly usurped the whole kingdom including the share of their cousins **PANDAVAS**. With a view to see that family harmony is not disrupted, **PANDAVAS** had minimised their demand to five villages only. All possible efforts, including Lord Krishna's personal approach as an emissary, having failed to persuade the **KAURAVAS** to accede even to this nominal demand, there was no way left to set things right but a recourse to battle. Even on the battlefield, Arjuna was moved by the sight of his relations and he preferred to go a-begging rather than enter into a fratricidal war. It was only on Lord Krishna's pointing out to him what his **DHARMA** demanded that the battle was fought.

Moreover, as pointed out by Thomas Morton, "The Gita is not a justification of war, nor does it proposed a war-making mystique. The Gita says that even in what appears to be most "unspiritual" one can act with pure intentions and thus be guided by Krishna-consciousness."

A clue about the innate spirituality of the battle of Mahabharat could be had from the two very significant words with which the Gita starts - "**DHARM-KSETRE, KURU-KSHETRE**". The battlefield where Gita teachings were imparted is termed (**DHARM-KSHETRA**) field of righteousness because the Lord, who is the Protector of **DHARMA**, was actively present there, and (**KURUKSHTRE**) field of action because action, as ordained by the Lord, was carried out there.

The other charge that Gita leads to inaction is found to be equally illusory when one probes into the questions: "Who taught Gita and to whom and with what result?" The teachings were imparted by the Lord Himself who knows and does what is best for His devotees. They were addressed to Arjuna, a prince and a warrior, by no means a frustrated soul who wanted to flee the world. He only sought the Lord's guidance as to which way his **DHARMA** lay. The teachings were given in the field of battle and not in some Himalayan recluse, and with the result that they brought back energies to the enervated Arjuna. He was indecisive, completely bewildered and grief-stricken and had, after going into the pros and cons of the battle, expressed an inclination not to fight. The teachings converted him into a determined, valiant fighter, full of courage and confidence stating: "Krishna! my seclusion is destroyed and I have gained knowledge through your grace. I stand freed from doubts; I shall, therefore, carry out your bidding."

Conditions requisite for obtaining Lord's grace are: '(a) a state of deep anguish, and (b) implicit faith and total surrender to God, shedding off all sense of egoism.

One by one, the Lord contradicted the various pleas set up by Arjuna not to fight and advised him to stand up and fight. Simultaneously, He advised him: "Fix your mind on Me, be devoted to Me, you shall come to Me." To those who worship Him in a disinterested way, the Lord promises "full security and personal attention to their needs." Not only that, the Lord, in no ambiguous terms, assures Arjuna: "Surrendering all duties to Me, seek refuge in Me alone. I shall absolve you of all sins; grieve not."

Arjuna's faith in the Lord was unshakeable. He had given a proof of it many a time. As the history goes, he had preferred to accept single handed, unarmed Lord as against His huge armed forces, to assist him. And how Krishna, in His turn, throughout the battle, helped and provided his devotee Arjuna is anybody's guess and envy. In spite of the overwhelming forces of KAURAVAS and the presence of such invincible personalities like BHISHMA, DRONA, KARAN, DURYODHANA, etc, who enjoyed individual boons of a sort of immortality, on the side of the enemies, Pandavas ultimately won. Lord's concern for His Devotee Arjuna, at times, even compelled Him to go out of the way to help him.

Though the message of BHAGAVAD Gita was delivered for the immediate benefit of Arjuna, the passage of time does not mar its freshness. It provides the guidance for an abundant life. It cures man of the evil of birth and death."

(b) By Krishna of Gita is not meant the person that no longer exists but the ever-abiding Lord in every one of us and it is to Him that we take refuge.

In this world, some like the Pandavas, led by YUDHISHTRA (steadfast in battle) and ARJUNA (an actor relying on the Lord) are akin to the forces of light or good; while others, like the Kauravas, with their King DHRITRASHTRA (one who covetously clings to an empire) and comrades like KARAN (ego-centred) prowess), SHAKUNI (unscrupulous will), DUSSHASAN (bad governance), etc. represent the forces of darkness and evil. Nay, even in the same person, sometimes SATTYA predominates, at others RAJAS or TRMAS. Thus, both in this world and the human body, which are supposed to be the fields of DHARMA, a constant tussle goes on raging between the two opposing forces. When we are in such distress, doubt, despair and anguish we should go to the Dweller in the innermost, listen to His Counsel, obey it implicitly and we will have no cause to grieve.

The conclusion to which SANJAY, who, through a divine boon, heard, saw and then narrated all what happened on the battlefield, to the blind King DHRITRASHTRA, arrived was: "Wherever there is a combination of KRISHNA, the Master of Supreme Yoga and ARJUNA, who is an expert and gives his best to the performance of his Duty, there surely comes glory, prosperity, victory and righteousness".

These observations are as true today as they were 5000 years ago.

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(Gita jayanti is celebrated on December 10.)

POKHARAN RADIOACTIVITY "WELL CONTAINED"

New Delhi (IBS) - A study of the ground water movement in Pokharan, in Rajasthan, by scientists of the Physical Research Laboratory at Ahmedabad has shown that radioactivity as the May 1974 Pokharan nuclear explosion site "is well contained".

The study showed that the ground water movement in Pokharan was "extremely slow," being just 0.5 metre a year.

Indian science in the dumps

Scientists in India, taken as a class, are an unhappy lot. From Nehru to Indira Gandhi to Morarji Desai they are a neglected community. The contrast between the Nehru era and the present times is glaring.

Those in charge of institutions of science are embittered by decisions taken at higher levels. Heads of research and development groups are frustrated by lack of encouragement and direction. The personnel at other levels are baffled when they are not cynically indifferent.

What seems to hurt most is that their work seems no longer to be considered particularly important by any top leader. They are particularly peered over the kind of neglect that marks the Janata Government's policy.

Does the policy reflect the Prime Minister's own attitude to scientific research? A notion has grown that Desai, who is in direct Ministerial charge of some of the most important scientific departments, does not believe in science. Some say that he does not believe in any development of modern lines. The notion may be wrong, but Desai has not done much to dispel it.

The Prime Minister, who is the President of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, the country's highest policy-making body, has met the directors of the CSIR laboratories only once - in May 1977, soon after the Janata Government was formed.

DOWN-GRADED

Soon thereafter, several laboratories were shifted from the control of the CSIR. The solution was to attach them, or at least some of them to the so-called "user Ministries".

Fears about bureaucratic control of laboratories transferred to "user Ministries" have already proved true.

The truncated CSIR has itself been in no better shape.

The Education Minister, P.C. Chunder, who is the Council's vice-president is said to have taken even less interest than the Prime Minister.

ATOMIC SCIENTISTS

Frustration and loss of morale among nuclear scientists and engineers is greater, and this is a deep concern. Some of the Desai's remarks have indicated that he is not exactly enthusiastic about the potential of nuclear power.

Desai's declaration that there will be no further peaceful nuclear explosion was meant as a sop to big nuclear powers, but it has not made any difference to the attitude of the major nuclear suppliers.

The concession implict in this declaration might not have done much damage to India's atomic energy programme if it had not been accompanied by internal measures suggesting disapproval of any bold initiative in nuclear research and development.

The Government must own responsibility for an apparent down-grading of nuclear research.

There is said to be a fall in admissions to the Bhabha Atomic Energy Commission's training school. There appears to be a decline in encouragement of new research projects, or support for projects already undertaken.

ATOMIC POWER PROJECTS

The atomic power programme itself is in shambles. The trouble over Tarapur atomic project is well known.

The Rajasthan atomic power station was for long idle for lack of heavy water, and also was plagued by labour trouble.

The Madras and Narora (U.P) atomic power projects are much behind schedule, and will not in any case be in operation until enough heavy water is produced within the country.

No new nuclear power project has yet been planned, let alone approved.

Work on heavy water plants has been inordinately delayed. The accident at the heavy water plant at Baroda is ascribed to a design fault. But there have also been more mysterious happenings like the disappearance of rather bulky equipment (for a heavy water plant) from a ship at sea.

The fast reactor project near Madras is being delayed for lack of sufficient plutonium. The only reactor whose spent fuel can now be reprocessed for extraction of plutonium is the research reactor at Trombay, near Bombay which was built years ago with Canadian assistance. The large reprocessing plant at Tarapur is now virtually idle, because of American objections to reprocessing of spent fuel from Tarapur atomic power station.

Not much thought seems to have been given to uranium enrichment. It might not be worthwhile to build an enrichment for the Tarapur power station alone: but an enrichment facility would add valuable flexibility to future power projects.

But the Government is showing little interest in any new project. Nor is there any nuclear policy direction to the scientists and engineers engaged on the projects in hand. The problem over Tarapur is not of the Government's own making, but Tarapur is only a small part of the atomic power programme. There is an uncertainty of purpose about the entire programme.

PACT TO EXPAND INDO-US SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

New Delhi, Nov. 21 (UNI) - The two-day meeting of the Indo-Us sub-commission on science and technology, which concluded here has delineated a number of projects for cooperation between Indian and American scientists in the coming years.

The Indian delegation for the meeting was led by Prof. M.G.K. Menon, secretary to the department of science and technology, and the American delegation by Thomas R. Pickering, assistant secretary of state for oceans and international environmental and scientific affairs.

CPM LEADER CRITICISES JANATA PARTY

Cochin, Nov. 23 (UNI) - The Marxist leader, B.T. Ranadive has criticised the Janata party for pursuing ineffectual policies against the danger of "authoritarian forces lurking under the leadership of Mrs. Indira Gandhi."

Finance Commission Recommendations

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (UNI) - The Seventh Finance Commission headed by Justice J.M. Shelat has recommended a total transfer of Rs 20,842.97 crores from the centre to the states during the five year period 1979-84. This is the biggest allocation yet made by any Finance Commission.

The Commission's report, which was tabled in Parliament by Finance Minister H.M. Patel, has raised the percentage of the share of the states to union taxes and duties. The states' share of income tax has been raised from 80 per cent to 85 per cent and the share of union excise duties from 20 to 40 per cent.

The Commission has also recommended debt relief to the states to the tune of Rs 2,156 crores. Liberal modifications in the present scheme of financing relief expenditure, which had been the target of severe attack the States and in Parliament, has also been made. Not only has the commission recommended the doubling of the annual margin funds for relief work from Rs. 50.71 crores to Rs 100.58 crores, it has also recommended that 75 per cent of the excess expenditure in case of floods, cyclones etc. should be given to the states as non-plan grant by the Centre.

Indo-U.S.S.R. trade

New Delhi — A draft program [illegible]-term cooperation between India and the Soviet Union will be discussed between a Soviet delegation led by N.N. Inozemtsev, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee of Planning, and an Indian delegation led by V. Rajadhyaksha, member Planning Commission.

During the 25 years since the first-five year trade agreement was signed between India and the Soviet Union in December 1953, commodity turnover between the two countries has increased from Rs. 17.5 million in 1953-54 to Rs. 10.9 billion in 1977-78, a growth of 622 times.

Soviet share in India's foreign trade, during this period, has increased from 0.2 per cent to 9.8 per cent. In terms of money, the value of commodity circulation between the two countries now amounts to double of what it was during the 1957-63 period. In 1977, India occupied the first place in the trade of the USSR with developing countries.

Karnataka case against Indira

Doddaballarpur, (Karnataka), Dec. 11 (UNI) - The case against Congress (I) President Indira Gandhi for allegedly filing a false affidavit before the electorate registration officer here has been posted to January 2, 1979 as she neither appeared in person nor any representation was made on her behalf before the Magistrate A. Mohan Ram today.

As the case came up for hearing, the Magistrate observed on the summons he had issued on November 13 on Mrs. Gandhi and R.L. Jalappa, President of the Karnataka State Co-operative Land Development Bank, who had allegedly certified Mrs. Gandhi's affidavit.

In the affidavit, Mrs. Gandhi had stated that she was ordinarily a resident of "Vishnu Ashram" in Doddaballarpur assembly constituency.

The case was filed on November 2 in the court by A. Neelakantaiah, a local leader of the Janata party, alleging that Mrs. Gandhi had filed a false declaration and that Mr. Jalappa had abetted this illegal action by countersigning the affidavit.

Indira in charge

New Delhi, Dec. 7 - Former prime minister Indira Gandhi has been elected chairman of the Indira Congress party she formed last January after leaving the original Congress party. She ran unopposed.

Mrs. Gandhi, 61, now officially heads the largest opposition party and can become opposition leader in the lower house of Parliament if she chooses.

Her party controls 75 seats in the 544-seat lower house compared with 66 seats held by the old Congress party. Prime Minister Morarji Desai's governing Janata party holds 304 seats.

The former prime minister, who fell from power and lost her own seat in the March, 1977, general election, returned to Parliament last month after victory in a special election in Chikmagalur, southern India.

In another development, the governing Janata party won another important parliamentary by-election in northern India Wednesday, but the party was still torn by internal bickering.

Janata candidate Liaqat Husain defeated the candidate of Gandhi's congress party by 30,000 votes in the Fatehpur constituency of Uttar Pradesh state.

He polled 130,621 votes against 100,555 for Prem Dutt Tiwari. Only 42 per cent of those eligible cast ballots.

The victory was an added boost to the Janata party following its win in a by-election in Bihar last week, but Janata, a coalition of five former parties once bitterly opposed to each other, continued to suffer from an internal struggle that has plagued it since early this year.

[AP]

ENCYCLOPAEDIA ON INDIA LITERATURE

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (UNI) - A nine-volume concise encyclopaedia on Indian literature, published recently in the Soviet Union, contains about 1,000 articles written by prominent indologists.

According to APN, the work complements the 30-volume great Soviet encyclopaedia which has more than 700 articles on Indian literature.

The new encyclopaedia embraces all the important aspects of the world literary process, including some 40,000 literary concepts, name of writers, literary critics and scholars and characteristics of literary trends in national literatures.

Ontario weather forecast: drifting snow, icy patches and reduced visibility during the Holiday Season.

That's why you must be in good condition to drive under these conditions.

Winter driving. For drivers this is the most dangerous season. Conditions change without warning. The dry road you're on now can quickly become treacherous at the next bend in the road... ice patches, frost, sudden snow squalls, even wet leaves create unexpected hazards. But during the Holiday Season these hazards tend to increase.

Poor visibility combined with heavy traffic throughout the Holiday Season means you must be in good condition to drive under these conditions. So must your car. So keep it in good repair. And keep yourself alert at all times. If you drink, don't drive. And always watch out for the other drivers. Assume there's trouble ahead even when conditions look safe. Help make sure you and your family will be here to enjoy another great Ontario Holiday Season.

James Snow,
Minister of Transportation and Communications
R. Roy McMurtry,
Attorney General

Province of Ontario
William Davis, Premier

Films

GHAR

Directed by Manish Ch

Produced by N N Sipp

Rape is a taboo - e[illegible] modernised, westernis[illegible] ties. Women libbers in Washington had organ[illegible] paigns against the rapi[illegible] proper rehabilitation [illegible] tance of the victims. In movies it has become situation. In many a fil[illegible] scene is its raison d'[illegible] example, Do Raha, co[illegible] have the longest rape Hindi movies. Some films get away with ex[illegible] scenes, like the three M[illegible] and Tamil films ba[illegible] week.

Hindi movies' villains best of both the worlds at the best (or is it [illegible] relations with the vamp vicarious pleasure b[illegible] fresh with the heroines. hero is content only wit[illegible] duet or two with the h[illegible] marrying her at the en[illegible] raped girl is not intent her own life, she is acce[illegible] or without reservation[illegible] beau.

Ghar is different [illegible] general run of films wi[illegible] scene meant as a crow[illegible] Rape is not at all shown kidnapping of the her[illegible] That adds a dimension t[illegible]

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Ghar is in the mould[illegible] Chatterji's low-budget [illegible] small episode in the[illegible] married and/or unmar[illegible] ple, misunderstanding o[illegible] wills between them and[illegible] sation at the end. The fi[illegible] the film is just a musical[illegible] lavishly mounted and[illegible] pictoriality; the second[illegible] taken up by the f[illegible] persecution mania of th[illegible] her belief that she is an[illegible] This division - of rom[illegible] drama - is an outdated [illegible] If the past, present and[illegible] of couple had been mi[illegible] some methodical mann[illegible] style of Nouvelle Vague[illegible] would have gained im[illegible] Traditionally speaking, [illegible] tions of the young c[illegible] orchestrated properly [illegible] affectionate relationship[illegible] in a light manner in the [illegible] Yet exploration of more[illegible] emotional bonds betw[illegible] could have added d[illegible] inwardness. The film[illegible] only the surface layers.

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n charge

He polled 130,621 votes against 100,535 for Prem Dutt Tiwari. Only 42 per cent of those eligible cast ballots.

The victory was an added boost to the Janata party following its win in a by-election in Bihar last week, but Janata, a coalition of five former parties once bitterly opposed to each other, continued to suffer from an internal struggle that has plagued it since early this year.

(AP)

ENCYCLOPAEDIA ON INDIA LITERATURE

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (UNI) - A nine-volume concise encyclopaedia on Indian literature, published recently in the Soviet Union, contains about 1,600 articles written by prominent Indologists.

According to APN, the work complements the 30-volume great Soviet encyclopaedia which has more than 700 articles on Indian literature.

The new encyclopaedia embraces all the important aspects of the world literary process, including some 40,000 literary concepts, name of writers, literary critics and scholars and characteristics of literary trends in national literatures.

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Films

GHAR

Directed by Manick Chatterjee

Produced by N N Sippy

Rape is a taboo - even in the modernised westernised societies. Women libbers in Rome and Washington had organised campaigns against the rapists and for proper rehebilitation and acceptance of the victims. In the Hindi movies it has become a stock situation. In many a film the rape scene is its raison d'etre. For example, **Do Raha**, considered to have the longest rape scene in Hindi movies. Some regional films get away with explicit rape scenes, like the three Malayalam and Tamil films banned last week.

Hindi movies' villains have the best of both the worlds - they are at the best (or is it worst?) of relations with the vamps and get vicarious pleasure by getting flesh with the heroines. The poor hero is content only with singing a duet or two with the heroine and marrying her at the end. If the raped girl is not intent on taking her own life, she is accepted, with or without reservations, by her beau.

Ghar is different from the general run of films with a rape scene meant as a crowd-getter. Rape is not at all shown, only the kidnapping of the heroine is. That adds a dimension to the film.

A newly-married couple is making the best of their marriage, never parting and cuddled together, be it their bedroom or open nature. One day while returning home from a movie at night, they find themselves waylaid by four sodden hoodlums. The husband's head is smashed, the wife kidnapped, and later raped. We find her in the hospital recovering from the shock. The trauma is too much for her. She becomes guilt-conscious and a psychic case riven with fantasies and persecution mania. She fears that normal relations with her husband cannot be restored. If the husband shows understanding of the situation and greater affection than before, she takes it to be a put-on affair. So guilt-ridden is she that she quits home and makes for the railway station to be followed by the husband.

Ghar is in the mould of Basu Chatterji's low-budget films - a small episode in the life of married and/or unmarried couple, misunderstanding or clash of wills between them and reconciliation at the end. The first half of the film is just a musical romance, lavishly mounted and rich in pictoriality; the second half is taken up by the fears and persecution mania of the wife and her belief that she is an outcast. This division of romance and drama - is an outdated structure. If the past, present and future life of couple had been mixed up in some methodical manner, in the style of **Nouvelle Vague**, the film would have gained immensely. Traditionally speaking, the emotions of the young couple are orchestrated properly and their affectionate relationships built up in a light manner in the first half. Yet exploration of more layers of emotional bonds between them could have added depth and inwardness. The film touches only the surface layers.

Some of the sequences are overdramatized. Like the wife's fearful fantasy that the quartet of her hubby's friends are therapists. Asrani's ebullient police inspector is vulgarly funny. He was all right imitating Hitler in **Sholay**, but within **Ghar's** Dramatic structure his sequence is a bad patch. The end-reconciliation between the couple is contrived. With Basu Chatterji it is always a logical reconciliation which is not the case with Manick Chatterjee. Plain-song tunes are simple and unenchanting, the sets are sophisticate but simple. Two things, in one viewing, seem anachronistic: Why did not the hubby, an insurance executive, think of consulting a psychiatrist for his wife's treatment? Dinesh Thakur, the story and scriptwriter of **Ghar**, plays a doctor and he shows blissful ignorance of elementary precautions taken by a medical practitioner. When the apatient becomes schizophrenic, Dinesh Thakur's doctor feels her pulse and examines her heartbeat instead of giving a calmpose.

So far we have known Rekha as a sex kitten. But in **Ghar** we come to know her as an actress too. She does such ingenious things with her character of the wife one has not associated with her image so far. Without depending this time on her physical charms, she pleases us with her true-to-life performance of a charming playful wife and a psychic case later on. Rekha's understanding of the role lends verve and vitality to her performance in the first half and pathos and depth in the second. One has to admire her passion and confidence and in terms of scale and style, the performance is impressive. Vinod Mehra lends Rekha an excellent support as her concerned hubby.

DARSHAK

in Democratic World.

Gavaskar cricket captain

New Delhi (IBS) — Twenty-nine-year old Sunil Gavaskar was appointed India's new cricket captain for all the six Tests to be played against the West Indies in this country in 1978-79.

He succeeds left-arm spinner Bishen Singh Bedi under whom India has lost all the series except the one against New Zealand and there too the team that squared the series was led by Gavaskar who donned the mantle of leadership because Bedi was unable top play. Bedi, however, has retained his place in the XI chosen to play the first Test at Bombay.

Gavaskar's selection as captain comes after six Tests series as Vice-captain and a very successful series, as a batsman against Pakistan where he shared the "man of the series" award with Zaheer Abbas, scoring 447 runs in six innings (including once not out) for an average of 89.40.

During the Pakistan tour, Gavaskar also surpassed two records held by Polly Umrigar, now chairman of the Selection Committee, the highest aggregate of 382 for India against Pakistan and the Test aggreagte of 3,631 runs in his 59-Test career.

American offers secret course

Bombay — The police are investigating the activities of an American who is running a 60-hour "secret" course to bring about "transformation" in a man's life for a mere Rs. 250. The course is called "EST".

Est, which in French means "to be", is being explained by the sharp-tongued organisers as "a technology of transformation".

The police are investigating it because of the "secret" nature of training courses" and public complains that the trainers use extremely abusive language against other religions. Residents of posh areas here were attracted in fairly large numbers to the first course which promised mental peace.

The police have received complaints that the chief trainer, whose name is London Carter, lists three "gound rules" at the beginning of the course: "Nobody attending the course should reveal to anyone outside what happens during the training. People wishing to leave the course could do so but such action would spell danger to them — just as dangerous as it is to jump out of giant-wheel. During the training, the trainees have only to obey their trainer and just none else, including their family members and parents, and their loyalty should be only to Est."

It is reported that all religious prophets, saints, incarnations, nirvana and yoga, are condemned in highly abusive language to "disabuse" the minds of the trainiees of the "harmful influences." Then the trainees are told that the teachings and preachings of Rama, Krishan, Christ, Mohammad, Buddha and Gandhi are nothing but "bull-shit" and must be thrown out to clean the mind.

Shiromani awards for Sikhs

New Delhi (IBS) - Fifteen Sikhs, including India's former cricket captain Bishen Singh Bedi, were given Shiromani Awards by Vice-President B.D. Jatti who welcomed the decision of the Institute of Sikh Studies the award conferring body to open the awards to non-Sikhs from next year for distinguished service in various fields.

A special "Sikh of the Year" award was given to Sardar Jaswant Singh Sethi, President of the Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee.

The recipients of the Shiromani Awards are: Col Pratap Singh Gill, Lt-Governor of Goa, Amrik Singh Bhandari, an engineer; Autar Singh (Industrialist), Raja Bhilinder Singh (sportsman), Bishen Singh Bedi (Cricketer), Bishen Singh Samundri, Vice-Chancellor of Guru Nanakdev University, Amritsar; Darshan Singh Kohli (entrepreneur), Dr. Gajjan Singh, a doctor; Gurcharan Singh (entrepreneur), Harbans Singh Bhanson (a Sikh leader from Kuwait), Harbhajan Singh (journalist), Sardar Inderjit Singh (agro-industrialist), Sardar Prem Singh (Income - Tax Practitioner), Sardar Raja Singh, (industrialist) and Sardar Sucha Singh (entrepreneur).

Rumour sparked violence

Aligarh, (UNI) : The second round of communal violence in Aligarh on November six was sparked by a quarrel between two non-resident Muslim friends who had arrived in the town together, according to B.N. Tandon, Commissioner of the Agra division.

Mr. Tandon told UNI that Laddan Mirza of Sambhal and Fassat Ali had an altercation over money in the local Mirza hotel at about 4.30 p.m. on November six. Fassat stabbed Laddan who ran out into the street. Rumour spread that Laddan had been stabbed by a Hindu. A local Muslim leader, who confirmed the incident, said he had pleaded with the authorities to immediately impose curfew but quite some time had elapsed before this was done. Mr. Tandon said two persons died that day in the violence — one due to stabbing and another in police firing. He said Laddan was alive, but his assailant was absconding.

Zia wants Kashmir solution

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (UNI) - Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq reiterated that a "peaceful settlement" on Kashmir was essential for lasting peace in the region, radio Pakistan reported.

"Unless this dispute is solved cooperation in other fields will not prove fruitful and meaningful" he said while inaugurating the Chinese-aided textile mill near Mirpur, in occupied Kashmir.

Sure increase U.S. trade

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: Mrs. Juanita M. Kreps, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, was on a three-day exploratory visit to India for increasing trade between the two countries. There were substantial opportunities for Indo-US trade, she said.

Speaking at the meeting of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Mrs. Kreps said that the United States was pleased with the recent trade liberalisation measures of India. She thought more liberalisation meant more opportunities for openness and competition for the benefit of the economy of India.

"In our view, free flow of private capital can be as important as unimpeded trade in fostering economic development. We recognise that differences exist concerning this issue and that every country has the right to determine the conditions under which foreign investment will take place. India must decide how best to avail itself of the contributions which foreign investment can make."

She said that she had been struck by India's past accomplishments and by the breadth of its future goals. The United States was also impressed by India's advance in technical skills and industrial diversification. India had also emerged as a strong international competitor in selected engineering products and sophisticated manufacturers.

Mr. Mohan Dharia, India's Minister for Commerce and Civil Supplies, said during the talk Mrs. Kreps had with him, the the U.S.A. should provide in restricted entry of Indian hand loom.

Mr. Dharia offered tari reduction bindings at the curre multilateral trade negotiations Geneva. These will mainly cove engineering goods.

He emphasised that India's export of handlooms and handicrafts need to be promoted in a big way because these provided jobs to millions. This point was well appreciated by the U.S. delegation.

The U.S.A. accounted for 11 per cent of exports and 21 per cent of India's imports in 1976-77. India has a favourable balance of trade with the U.S. but its share in US imports has come down from 2.65 per cent in 1951 to 0.53 per cent in 1977.

Mrs. Kreps also called on the Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, and held talks with the Finance Minister, H.M. Patel.

Netaji "Treasure" examined

New Delhi (UNI) — The "treasure box" of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, opened recently, contained rings, chains, wrist watchs, pendants, bangles, fragments of stones, shirt buttons, and other miscellaneous items, it was revealed in the lower house of Parliament.

The net weight of the articles, excluding weight of wrappers, was found to be 13491.25 grammes, Prime Minister Morarji Desai said in a written answer.

The box, lying with the national museum since 1952, was opened on October nine this year under instructions from the Prime Minister. Almost all the articles in the box were in damaged and charged condition.

This was done to verify the observations made in Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan's report about the contents of the box.

The two commissions — one headed by Shah Nawaz Khan and the other by Justice G.D. Khosla had in their reports stated that Netaji had been killed in the plane crash in Taiwan. Doubts were, however, cast on their findings.

The box, said to contain the treasure that was salvaged from the aircraft in which Netaji was reported to have met his death, was brought to Delhi from Tokyo by an official of the Government of India under instructions form the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in November 1952.

It was handed over to the prime minister immediately and was retained by the Ministry of External Affairs temporarily.

The box, placed in a diplomatic bag sealed by the External Affairs Ministry, was entrusted on December 31, 1953 to the national museum, New Delhi for safe custody and had remained with it since then.

The box was opened recently in the presence of officials from department of culture, Archaeological Survey of India, national museum and external affairs ministry.

The cloth bag contained a steel suitcase and it was opened with the key tied to the seal of the diplomatic bag. It was found to contain several packages.

An inventory of the articles was taken and, the contents were placed in the suitcase and again sealed.

The Janata Party MP, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, had once alleged that the then prime minister, Jawahar Lal Nehru, was involved in a cover-up operation after part of the treasure had been removed.

BIHAR MINISTER'S TERM EXPIRES

Patna (IBS) - Bihar's Minister of State for Rural Development Sukhdeo Singh Shukla ceased to be a member of the Cabinet with the expiry Monday, November 6, of his term as a Minister without being a member of either House of the State Legislature.

Shukla's membership of the Legislative Council expired on May 6 and during the six months he had not been able to renew his membership of the House.

INDIA TO SUPPLY IRON ORE TO INDONESIA

New Delhi, Nov. 25 (UNI) - India has renewed its offer to supply iron-ore pellets for Krakatau steel plant in Indonesia from the Bailadilla mines in Madhya Pradesh and Donimalai mines in Tamil Nadu.

ew Bombay air terminal

ew Delai (Ibi) - The new national air terminal complex ombay will be commissioned 980. Civil Aviation Minister shottam Kaushik told the a Sabha. The present hings would then be used for estic flights.

The Minister said that the ons at Bombay and Delhi congested and the Govern-ment was persuading interna-tional airlines to divert their flights to Calcutta and Madras. But such diversion was depen-dent on the convenience of the airlines.

Meanwhile, he said, the Government had decided not to allow any additional flights to come to Bombay.

No cow milk for Vinoba

unar (UNI) — Acharya ba Bhave will drop cow-milk his meagre meal, form ary one next, in protest ist the failure of the govern-nts of West Bengal and la to ban cow slaughter. e Acharya's once-a-day meal sts of 19 tolas of honey and a tolas of cow milk or its ucts.

From January one he will take 19 tolas of honey only with water.

A statement filed here by Radhakrishna Bajaj, secretary of the Akhil Bharatiya Krishi Go-sewa Sangh, said the Acharya was unhappy that the assurance given to him during his fast in September 1976 by the centre to secure a ban on cow-slaughter throughout the country had not been fulfilled.

Scientists panel on N-safeguards

ew Delhi (IBS) — An interna-al panel of scientists chosen India and the United States examine all types of safe-rds on atomic energy blishments and their effect on elopment of atomic energy for ceful purposes, Prime ister Morarji Desai clarified. he clarification came at a ting of Parliament's Consul-tative Committee on atomic energy, space, electronics and science and tehnology.

Desai declined to disclose the content of the recent talks Indian officials had with US official Joseph Nye on the issue of safeguards and the appointment of a scientists panel. But he did inform the committee that the suggestion for the appointment of the panel came from the US.

Canadian help for Indian blind

ipur - Ross Alger, Mayor of ary in Canada, has presented t of 8,000 Canadian dollars to Chief Minister of Rajasthan ye restoration and operation in Jaipur.

e mayor, along with his wife other members of the delega-from Calgary, now on tour of ur in connection with the pink s 250th anniversary celebra-, met the press here.

The Mayor said that they had visited a village and were deeply impressed by the effort to put the people on their feet by their own hard work.

Replying to a question, Alger said that "Calgary's population is only 500,000. It has 14 wards and a mayor is elected by all."

Alger also explained the working of the Calgary local self-government.

U.S. and N-fuel pact

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (UNI) - India intends to find out alternatives if the United States violated the agreement on the supply of the next consignment of nuclear fuel for the Tarapur atomic power plant, Prime Minister Morarji Desai told the Lower House of Parliament.

Mr. Desai said that India was determined to find a way out if the US violated the agreement.

India had already told the US administration and the US Congress that legislation banning the supply of nuclear fuel to countries which had not signed the non-proliferation treaty was ultra vires of the US agreement on the supply of fuel to India.

Mr. Desai said the question of supply of the next consignment of nuclear fuel in time was still pending with the nuclear regula-tory commission to which favour-able recommendations had been sent by the US administration.

Minister sacked

Patna, Dec. 11 (UNI) - Bihar Minister of State for Public Health engineering department Aniruddha Prasad was removed from his post by the Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur.

Mr. Thakur, without assigning any reason, asked Mr. Prasad to submit his resignation or face dismissal.

The Minister submitted his resignation immediately after the receipt of the letter.

Mr. Prasad is a close associate of state Janata Party Chief Satyen-dra Narain Singh, a few of whose supporters are accused of having worked against the party candi-date in Samastipur parliamentary by-election.

The by-election was won by the Janata candidate Ajit Kumar Mehta.

Inquiry commissions

New Delhi: The Government of India has incurred Rs. 109.63 Lakhs up to October 31, 1978, on the seven inquiry commissions.

The break-up figures as given out in the Rajya Sabha by S.D. Patil, Minister of State for Home, are:

The Shah Commission (for emergency excesses) : Rs. 48.84 Lakhs, the Jagmohan Reddy Commission (for the Nagarwala episode and Bansi Lal affairs) Rs. 9.32 Lakhs, the Grover Commis-sion (for allegation against Mr. Dev Raj Urs and other Karnataka Ministers) Rs. 9.94 Lakhs, the Vimadalal Commission (for all-egation against Mr. Vengal Rao and other ministers of Andhra Pradesh) Rs. 5.13 Lakhs, the Gupta Commission (for Maruti affairs) Rs. 16.34 Lakhs and Raweja Commission (for allega-tion against Lathi charges in Delhi jail) Rs. 6000.00.

Film certificates cancelled

Bombay (IBS) - The Central Board of Films Censors has cancelled the certificates of four feature films produced in South India for exhibiting prints with scenes not certified by the censors. The films are:— Malayalam: "Sathirathil Oru Rathri" (A Night in a Guest House), "Thamburatty" (Queen) and "Avalude Ravukal" (Her Nights), Telegu: "Chat Mohan Ranga." (IBS).

Clean chit to RSS

Ujjain, Nov. 27 (UNI) — Janata party President Chandra Shekhar today asserted that he did not subscribe to the view that the Rashtriya Swayham Sewak Sangh (RSS) had engineered communal riots in a planned way in various parts of the country.

Addressing the function of his party's four-day national camp here, he said had it been so, there would have been serious riots at least in three states — Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh — "which have former RSS men as chief ministers. The reality was that nothing of the sort had happend in these states, he said.

Chandra Shekhar said that some individuals belonging to the RSS might have a hand in the trouble somewhere, but it was not fair to blame the whole organiza-tion for the acts of a few. Similar elements might also be in other parties like the Congress(I), the Congress and the Communists.

Customs duty relief

New Delhi (IBS) - The Indian Government announced conces-sional rates of customs duty on a few more of its capital equipment and raw materials imported for manufacturing specified elec-tronic components.

The concessional rate of 25 per cent and caloram has been extended to capital equipment including some machinery for leather processing and finishing industry.

DANCING GOVERNOR

Baroda (IBS) - Governor of Gujarat Mrs. Sharda Mukerji has described herself "not only as a talking Governor but of late a dancing Governor."

She said that she received frequent requests to participate in Gujarat's traditional garba dance and she had danced in Ahmedabad

Lata Mangeshkar honoured

Kohlapur, (UNI) — Melody queen Lata Mangeshkar, who started her career in this town of Maharashtra 35 years back, was today conferred with honorary degree of D Litt by the Shivaji University here.

The citation read by Vice Chancellor B.S. Banage said: "Lata's father, Deenanath Mangeshkar, on his death-bed called his little daughter by his side, and said "I am giving you my tamboura, my music books and the blessings of God Mangeshi. Tend your musical voice with utmost care".

The citation recalled the occas-ion when the Late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru was moved to tears hearing Lata singing "aye mere watan ke logo", a song that inspired our soldiers and was composed for the purpose during the Indo-China conflict in 1962.

In Lata's music one finds the passionate dedication of Meerab ai. Her music is the music of the masses. "She yields to the god of music and we in turn yield to the goddess of music," the citation said.

Coming from a family of musicians Lata Mageshkar has to her credit the maximum number of discs. Her's is a world record.

Her two sisters, Asha Bhonsle and Usha Mangeshkar, are also established singers of India.

Akali ministers withdraw resignation

New Delhi (IBS) — The two Akali Ministers at the Centre Surjit Singh Barnala and Dhana Singh Gulshan — withdraw their resignations following a directive from the Akali High Command.

The two Ministers wrote identi-cal, one sentence letters to Prime Minister Mroarji Desai who promptly replied: "I am indeed very happy that you have with-drawn your resignation."

The Akali High Command's directive followed a settlement of issues arising out of the recent agitation against the Nirankari movement. The three-point settlement envisages the release of Akalis arrested in Delhi during the agitation earlier this month, scrutiny of the "objectionable" portions in the Nirankari books and advice to the Nirankari chief to restrict his movements.

Kerala C.M.'s appeal

New Delhi: The Kerala Chief Minister, P.K. Vasudevan Nair, who has been in the Capital, appealed to Malayalees outside Kerala to contribute towards flood relief in the state.

The Chief Minister said the recent floods in the state were unprecedented and the relief needs of the state are enormous.

He urged the Malayalees outside the state to send their contribu-tions to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

Record air India profit

New Delhi (IBS) — Air India has achieved an all time high record in its net profit as well as traffic during 1977-78. The airline's net profit rose by over Rs. 100 million from Rs. 175.9 million in 1976-77 to Rs. 284.5 million in 1977-78.

It was also for the first time in Air India's history that the number of the passengers crossed the one million mark. It carried 1,043,159 passengers during the year.

There was also a substantial increase in the foreign exchange earnings of the airline: Rs. 692.9 million as against 445.7 million last year.

Janata retains seat

Samastipur (IBS) - Ajit Kumar Mehta of the Janata Party won the Samastipur by-election to the Lok Sabha by a margin of 26,864 votes, defeating Mrs. Tarkesh-wari Sinha of Congress (I) who thus lost her fourth successive election contest between 1971 and 1978 - three for the Lok Sabha and one for the State Assembly.

The by-election was caused by the resignation of Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur who had won this seat in 1977 with a margin of about 327,000 votes during the Janata wave which had swept North India then.

Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, at the craft centre in Arunachal Pradesh.

"Bigotted" m

Mississauga politicians wh ignore racial problems had bett take a warning from Ron Searle defeat at the polls because it c happen to them, too, says A Adhopia, spokesman for the city 1,500 South-East Asians.

Adhopia told The Mississaug News that Searle h taken a "bigotted" approach South-East Asians when a fou member delegation visited ci hall last year to ask city council take steps to prevent raci confrontation in Mississauga.

Adhopia said his group turn out in force to vote against Sear and seemed to have made up large part of the 3,000 vo majority polled by mayor-elec Hazel McCallion.

"We were determined to u ballot box power," he said. "W have shown that it pays to u that, rather than shout slogans

EXPAND

He added, "this is what we w continue to do at the ne election. We will expand o activities and endorse a slate candidates of our choice."

Adhopia said that from now his group would be keeping ta on local politics - particula those on the Peel Board Education - to watch how th handle race issues.

"We will be questioning the and taking their views on

Strike Indian

By Thomas Pamilal

Montreal- A number of Ind students have been affected the state wide student strike Quebec.

So far well over thirty colle are on strike throughout province interrupting the stud of thousands of students.

Their demands include f tuition, indexed bursaries, educational materials and ab tion of "independence clau which says a student cannot considered for aid if his par earn certain amount of mo annually.

Education Minister Jacqu Yvan Morin has declared in legislative assembly that he not give in to the demands students.

Several Indian students at CEGEP colleges, most of the the Montreal area. A Chaval, a second year stu said: "The government ha introduce some changes in present policy. Otherwise quite difficult for many of u continue our studies." Ash

Increase in

Jullundur, (UNI) — Indi become one of the leading p producing countries in the w

According to Dr. M.S. Sw nathan, Director General of Indian Council of Agricult Research (ICAR), the latest (1977-78) has touched the million tonne mark.

Inaugurating an internat seminar on potato here, Swaminathan pointed out potato production was increa rapidly in India, with the p tion rising from a meagre million tonnes in 234,000 he in 1949-50 to the presen million tonnes in 864 hectares.

"Bigotted" mayor defeated

Mississauga politicians who ignore racial problems had better take a warning from Ron Searle's defeat at the polls because it can happen to them, too, says Ajit Adhopia, spokesman for the city's 1,500 South-East Asians.

Adhopia told The Mississauga News that Searle had taken a "bigotted" approach to South-East Asians when a four-member delegation visited city hall last year to ask city council to take steps to prevent racial confrontation in Mississauga.

Adhopia said his group turned out in force to vote against Searle and seemed to have made up a large part of the 3,000 vote majority polled by mayor-elect Hazel McCallion.

"We were determined to use ballot box power," he said. "We have shown that it pays to use that, rather than shout slogans."

EXPANDING

He added, "this is what we will continue to do at the next election. We will expand our activities and endorse a slate of candidates of our choice."

Adhopia said that from now on his group would be keeping tabs on local politics - particularly those on the Peel Board of Education - to watch how they handle race issues.

"We will be questioning them and taking their views on the issues that concern the ethnic people."

He said the school board appears to have been "burying its head in the sand" when it comes to race relations and multi-culturalism issues and "pretending that nothing is happening at all."

Adhopia said "we will be attending their meetings, questioning the trustees and watching their attitudes."

MASSIVE

Adhopia said that Searle began to "lecture" his group when the delegation made its approach to him in 1977 and made several bigotted remarks which set the ball rolling for a massive campaign to get together all the voting power possible to vote the mayor out of office.

Voters' lists from the previous election were used to help identify South-East Asians and, Adhopia said, he started the next day to "work for Ron Searle's defeat."

He said he told many groups of South-East Asians the facts of the encounter and that there was an "Archie Bunker" in the mayor's office. "They were very emotionally charged against Ron Searle," he said.

"We are very delighted that Ron Searle is not there now. We're glad that Archie Bunker is no longer the mayor."

mississauga news

Strike affects Indian students

By Thomas Punnid

Montreal- A number of Indian students have been affected by the state wide student strike in Quebec.

So far well over thirty colleges are on strike throughout the province interrupting the studies of thousands of students.

Their demands include, free tuition, indexed bursaries, free educational materials and abolition of "independence clause" which says a student cannot be considered for aid if his parents earn certain amount of money annually.

Education Minister Jacques-Yvan Morin has declared in the legislative assembly that he will not give in to the demands by students.

Several Indian students attend CEGEP colleges, most of them in the Montreal area. Ashok Chawal, a second year student said: "The government has to introduce some changes in its present policy. Otherwise it is quite difficult for many of us to continue our studies." Ashok is studying engineering.

Meanwhile, Morin has said that free education is a part of the Parti Quebecois platform and that the demands by students mean an additional $205 million for the province.

The striking Indian students can now be found in the picket lines along with their other friends pondering over the next move.

GURU NANAK'S DAY CELEBRATED

Montreal - 509th birthday of Asri Guru Nanak Jee was celebrated in Montreal on November 26, 1978.

A large number of his followers attended the day-long functions at the Sikh Temple in Lachine near Montreal. The Lachine temple was opened in 1971.

Guru Nanak's birthday was also celebrated in other parts of Canada.

Celebrations included prayer, sermon and reading the works of the founder of Sikh religion.

Bhullar Singh is the president of the Sikh Temple Association.

Increase in potato production

Jullundur, (UNI) — India has become one of the leading potato producing countries in the world.

According to Dr. M.S Swaminathan, Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the latest crop (1977-78) has touched the 8.1 million tonne mark.

Inaugurating an international seminar on potato here, Dr. Swaminathan pointed out that potato production was increasing rapidly in India, with the production rising from a meagre 1.5 million tonnes in 204,000 hectares in 1949-50 to the present 8.1 million tonnes in 664,000 hectares.

Hindi writer dead

Jaipur (IBS) — Dr. Somnath Gupta, Director of the Rajasthan Sahitya Academy died here after a brief illness. He was 72.

A former Principal of Jaipur's Maharaja College, Gupta was a noted Hindi writer.

Cullen on Chhina

The Minister of Employment and Immigration Canada, Bud Cullen, announced today a number of positive measures, which the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission is prepared to implement in order to prevent closure of Kraven Knitting Ltd. in Stratford.

At the same time, he has refused the re-entry into Canada of Sewa Singh Chhina, a mechanical trainee who had worked at Kraven for nine months, and who also worked in Canada illegally under the name of Paul Surinder.

The Minister said he would not support the re-admission to Canada of Mr. Chhina since the facts on record regarding Mr. Chhina were such that he was obviously not a suitable immigrant.

Golden pheasant threatened

Lucknow, (UNI) — The golden pheasant is threatened with extinction.

The rot has already set in. Twisted necks, turned toes and other forms of physical deformities, uncertain survival chances appear to be in store for this exquisite bird.

The prince of wales zoological gardens, the original home of golden pheasant in India, presents a miserable sight today with some of the birds already suffering from physical deformities.

Of the seventeen golden pheasants in the zoo four are with turned toes and twisted necks.

According to Dr. Dawar Husain, Deputy Director of the zoo, several others with deformities have already perished because of too much of close inbreeding."

Buffaloe research in Vietnam

Jullundur (UNI): India would set up an institute for research on buffaloes in Vietnam.

Addressing a press conference here Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, said this would be the first such institute being set up by the government in any foreign country, though earlier it had been supplying buffaloes in large number of Bulgaria and other countries.

Dr. Swaminathan said, a national goat research institute would be set up in Mathura where a small centre was working. A centre for research on such animals as yaks was also proposed to be set up in Arunachal Pradesh.

A centre for research on pigs was proposed to be established in Nagaland. The location of these institutes would be decided in consultation with the state governments concerned.

It was also proposed to establish a national bureau of animal genetic research to identify and preserve various varieties of animals.

VIKRANT HAS ANOTHER 12 YEARS' LIFE

New Delhi (IBS) - The aircraft carrier INA Vikrant would, after modernisation, serve the country for at least 12 years more, Minister of State for Defence Sher Singh told the Lok Sabha.

The normal life of an aircraft carrier was about 30 years and the Vikrant had been in service for over 17 years.

Police testing supported

Toronto - The Ontario Human Rights Commission today announced its support for the decision of the Metropolitan Toronto Board of Police Commissioners to institute a psychological assessment program for new police recruits.

The testing procedure, designed to identify recruits who are prone to racial and ethnic prejudice or unduly aggressive behaviour as a response to stress, was recommended by both the Pitman Task Force on Human Relations and the Ubale Report on inter-group tensions involving the South Asian community, which were issued last year.

"The Ontario Human Rights Commission commends the Metropolitan Toronto Police for taking a significant initiative in implementing procedures which will improve relations between the police and minority communities in Toronto," said Dorothea Crittenden, Commission Chairman.

Several police departments have also developed Community Relations Units and trained their personnel in dealing with racially-motivated conflicts. "These programs reflect a progressive response to the problems experienced by minority groups in Ontario cities," the Commission stated.

Poet's corner

GENERATION GAP

I seek then to find a new heaven and hell.
Of all the wealth that grew
Yet the prestige fell upon earth's loaded face.
Fill the space my body occupies,
With prashanti (peace) and prema (love).

I stand peerless.
The world weeps in disappointment.
Love is for the beasts
They themselves love and speak.
Without pleasure, a wasted life we live.

And understand me, I say,
Understand my words,
And read my thoughts, I pray.

I know not from whence I came.
So why treat me as a stranger?
Your land has yet to renounce its fame.

Nirmala B.W. Singh

Thulasi

BOOKS ABOUT INDIA

For Your Personal Library

EASTERN RELIGIONS & WESTERN THOUGHT
Radhakrishnan. 396pp. Pb. Oxf. $4.95

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Swami Vivekananda. 127pp. Pb. $3.95

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Payment must accompany all orders. If payment is made in Canadian funds, please add 15% to cost of book. Postage is 50 cents/book. Student discount 10%.

THULASI, BOX 7850, STANFORD, CA 94305

KITCHEN KORNER

By Mrs. Pranati SenGupta

CHOCOLATE LOG

6 egg whites
½ cup sugar, 6 egg yolks
½ cup unsweetened cocoa
1½ tsp. vanilla extract
Dash salt
Confectioners' sugar

Filling:

1½ cups heavy cream, chilled
½ cup confectioners' sugar
½ cup unsweetened cocoa
2 tsp. instant coffee
1 tsp. vanilla extract
Candied cherries, angelica for decoration

Grease bottom of a 15½ by 10½ by 1 inch jelly-roll pan; line with waxed paper; grease lightly. Preheat the oven to 375°F. In a large electric-mixer bowl, at high speed, beat egg whites just until soft peaks form when the beater is slowly raised. Add ¼ cup sugar, 2 tbsp. at a time, beating until stiff peaks form when beater is slowly raised.

With same beaters, beat yolks at high speed, adding remaining ½ cup sugar, 2 tbsp. at a time. Beat until mixture is very thick - about 5 minutes. At low speed, beat in cocoa, vanilla and salt, just until smooth. With wire whisk or rubber scraper, using an under-and-over motion, gently fold the cocoa mixture into the beaten egg whites, just until they are blended (no egg white should show).

Spread evenly in pan. Bake 15 minutes, just until surface springs back when gently pressed with fingertip. Sift confectioners' sugar in a 15 by 10" rectangle, on clean linen towel. Turn cake out on sugar; lift off pan; peel paper off cake. *

Unroll cake; spread with filling to 1 inch from edge; reroll. Place, seam side down, on plate; cover loosely with foil. Refrigerate 1 hour before serving. To serve: Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar; decorate with angelica and cherries. Serves 10.

Note: Let egg whites warm to room temperature-about 1 hr. You may make the Chocolate Log a week ahead, then freeze it, wrapped in foil. Let stand at room temperature to thaw for about 1 hr. before serving.

*Roll up, jelly-roll fashion, starting with the short end, towel and all. Cool completely on rack, seam side down-at least ½ HR. To make the filling: Combine ingredients in mixing bowl. Beat with electric mixer until thick, and then refrigerate.

CHRISTMAS CAKE

1 lb. butter
2 cup sugar
6 eggs
4 cup flour
1 tsp. baking powder
½ cup whiskey
1 lb. chopped pecans
1 lb. white raisins

Combine butter and sugar in bowl; cream until smooth. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well. Sift flour and baking powder together; add to creamed mixture alternately with whiskey. Fold in pecans and raisins. Turn into greased and floured tube pan, bake at 325° F. for 1 hour and 30 minutes.

PEAR CAKE

1½ cups salad oil
2 cups sugar
3 eggs
3 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. vanilla
2 cups chopped canned Bartlett pears, well drained
1 cup chopped pecans

Combine oil, sugar, eggs; beat well. Sift together flour, salt, soda and cinnamon. Add to creamed mixture, add vanilla. Fold in pears and pecans. Grease and flour a 10" Bundt or tube pan. Spoon in batter. Bake at 325°F for 1 hr and 20 minutes, or until cake tests done. Let cool in pan for 20 minutes and remove to cake rack for complete cooling. Drizzle white glaze over cake top, letting some run down the sides.

WHITE GLAZE

1 tbsp. soft butter
1½ cups powdered sugar
1 to 3 tbsp. syrup from the canned pears

Blend butter and sugar with enough pear syrup to make a smooth, slightly runny frosting.

Sanjay to continue in politics

Canada (IBS) - Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said here that her younger son Sanjay had not given up politics.

She said it was wrong to say that she had "foisted" Sanjay on the people during the Emergency. The "fact" was that he was liked by the people.

URDU EDITOR DEAD

Jammu (IBS) - Inder Singh, Editor of the Urdu daily "Waqat" died here after suffering a heart attack while working in his office. He was 48.

LORD VENKATESWARA MOTOR-BIKES

Tirupati (IBS) - Devotees of Lord Venkateswara have diversified their offerings to Lord Venkateswara to now include motor-cycles costing about Rs. 7000 each.

Instead of offering the usual cash and jewellery, a devotee from Madras handed over to the "peshkar" of the temple at Tirumala a motor-cycle.

They were elected

They were elected office bears of Decan Cultural Society of British Columbia.

President : D. C.R. Krishnamoorthy.
V. President: Dr. N. M. G. Bhakthan.
Secretary: P. S. Reddy
Joint Sec.: K. S. Natarajan.
Treasurer: M.S. Rajah.
Ex-officio: Dr. N. G. Nair.
Executive Committee Members (Directors) — P. Devadasan, A. Ganason, Das Mohan, V. Nadarajan, S. Arul Raja, V.S.S. Rama Rao, and Veera Bhadhra Rao.

Former C.M.held

Pondicherry, Dec. 11 (UNI) Former Pondicherry Chief Minister S. Ramaswamy was arrested and later released on bail by a judicial first class magistrate on a personal bond.

The arrest was made in connection with a case under section 342 (wrongful confinement) read with 34 ipc, which was registered on a complaint by former Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) legislator N.V. Ramalingam on October 28 last that he was kept in wrongful confinement last month.

Counselling service in Ottawa

The Ottawa-Carleton Immigrant Services Organization has set up a counselling service for helping immigrants from all over the world who have decided to settle in the Ottawa-Carleton region.

For immigrants coming from the Indian sub-continent (Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, India, Burma and Sri Lanka), the organization has obtained services of a volunteer counsellor, S. Bhaneja, who will be available for consultations at 425 Gloucester Street (off Bronson Avenue) between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. every Friday. For service other than Friday, prior appointments may be made by telephone at 238-4256.

The community may make use of this valuable service.

Father Councillor, son Trustee

Orangeville, Ont.

Father and son have made a political history in Orangeville. Orangeville's population is over 13,000.

Mike Flecker is re-elected to the position of Councillor for the town of Orangeville for the fourth time. . .He polled 1642 votes and is one of the six councillors in a Council of one Mayor, one reeve, one deputy reeve. This is his 4th term.

His son Karl N. Flecker (18 years old) won the election of Trustee on Dufferin County Board of Education. Dufferin County has 9 townships and a population over 30,000 and there are 14 trustees from those townships. Karl Flecker won the seat by polling 1257 votes. The youngest trustee in the history of Dufferin County - 2nd or 3rd youngest in Canada.

The Fleckers (from India) have settled in Orangeville for the last 15 years. Their daughter Michelle is a 3rd year York University student of Anthropology.

Mrs. Flecker is a teacher under Dufferin County Board of Education.

Priority to science

New Delhi (IBS) - India and the United States have given the "highest priority" to the exchange of scientists and scientific information on projects of mutual benefit.

The fourth meeting of the Indo-US Sub-commission on science and technology which ended here also agreed to give priority to development of renewable sources of energy, specially solar energy.

The Sub-commission has recommended allocation of $2 million US aid for integrated rural development projects, including decentralised rural energy systems, operational research on primary health care, wildlife preservation, watershed management, satellite oceanography and electronics.

B.C.Sikh elections

General Meeting of the Indo-Canadian Sikh Association of Prince Rupert, B.C. was held on Sunday, November 19th, 1978 at the Sikh Temple to fill the positions left vacant by the resignation of the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary and to discuss major Renovations to the SIKH TEMPLE, 200-4th Ave. East.

At present the following are the members of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

PRESIDENT: SURDEV SINGH JATANA
VICE PRESIDENT: SOHAN SINGH CHAHAL
SECRETARY: JAGTAR SINGH SANGHA
ASSIST. SECRETARY: SURJIT SINGH KAMBO
TREASURER: HARCHAND SINGH UPPAL
ASSIST. TREASURER: GURMEET SINGH SANDHU
MEMBERS: SOHAN SINGH MANAK, GURSHARN SINGH DHILLON AND HAKAM SINGH HANS.
SIKH-PRIEST: HARBHAJAN SINGH BHAMRAH
INCHARGE OF FILMS: AMAR JIT SINGH JOHAL
INCHARGE OF "LANGAR" AND KITCHEN: NIRANJAN KAUR THANDI

Members empowered the Executive Committee to begin major renovations to the Sikh Temple foundation, purchase one Commercial Heavy-Duty Stove, one 16mm projector and screen. Members present donated well over $3000.00 within half an hour.

JAGTAR SINGH SANGHA

Chicago Indians organize

Chicago, Illinois-An Ad Hoc group of twenty elected office-bearers representing 12 Chicago based Indian community organizations met here on November 5th to discuss problems facing the Indian community in this country, and to evolve a framework for cooperation in their service activities. The conference was convened by the India League of America.

Representatives of the associations discussed subjects such as professional and employment problems, human services, legal and immigration services, common cultural events, discrimination, group discounts and insurance, India related fund raising, etc. Two Ad Hoc committees - committee on Professional Advancement and Committee on Human Services -- were organized with mandates to evolve working charters for the two pressing issues facing the community and to report back to the coordinating committee at its next meeting. Additional committees will be organized as the need arises.

All representatives saw much merit in working constructively together in this manner and expressed great satisfaction with the climate for cooperation evidenced at this meeting. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled on January 7, 1979.

Further information may be obtained by contacting:

Dr. Manoj Sanghvi, President,
India League of America
25 E. Washington St. #1639
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 263-4313

Pak can make N-bomb

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (UNI) - External Affairs Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee told the Lower House of Parliament (Lok Sabha) that Pakistan had of late been trying to acquire from France a reprocessing plant for the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes but it could be diverted to manufacture atom bomb.

Replying to a spate of supplementaries, he, however, said that Pakistan had repeatedly assured India that it wanted the development of nuclear know-how at home for peaceful purposes. It had made a similar commitment to France with which it was negotiating.

EXPORT CASH AID TO CONTINUE

New Delhi (IBS) - Cash assistance for exports will continue for three more years beyond March 1979, in view of the sagging trend in India's exports and growing protectionist measures adopted by the developed countries.

Humour

My

By A.F. Ashtamudi.

Ever since we escaped from freezing colds and diabol winters of Canada in order luxuriate in the relative warmt California, my wife has b enjoying a secret love-affair.

I have harboured suspicions along; but I never did have inkling of the intensity of relationship, until just recent Now that my jealousy has b aroused, I am no longer ashar to publicly confess that her love is green plants. It probably been a signal flaw in character throughout our r tionship. It must have dormant during our sojourn Canada, only to be resurrecte sunny California. The clir was not conducive to the awa ing of such ardors. Arctic bl from somewhere north of Tor quickly dampened any such cipient desires. Here in Cal nia, the vegetation is com atively lush; the weather, eve winter, does not chill and c the bones. And so her love flowered and flourished wh languish hopelessly, helple in despair.

It was only after she moved six foot six inch Ficus Benja right into our small clut bedroom that I began to feel uneasy. I was offended by attack on our privacy. A dis settled into the ordinary, humdrum, momentum of our Finally the disquiet progre from a fretful fit of depressi disgrace and despair. Whi where I am now. My vaunte has been crushed. My sensi has been pricked. The n subtle tauntings of my fr have become a torture. Even I watch the house get green I, in turn, become green envy. I get the eerie feelin somehow I do not belong Her affection for plants is astounding. I see her c talk, fondle, bathe, sing, and them quite regularly. And time I witness such ob display of emotions, I am nrally stricken with pan jealousy. What bugs me is t her scale of attention, somewhere in line after the and the crabgrass that gene dot our landscape.

Medard Boss, A G psychiatrist, once claimed the Indian personality is d ared by a narcissistic tend Phillip Spratt who studie 'Hindu Personality' in depth arrived at the very same c sion. I see nothing o journeying through life healthy narcissistic impulse it is my Wife who keeps r ing me in no uncertain term this despair and jealousy have lately been exhibit rooted in my latent narcis She even claims that I am on an ego trip. It is more that my ego has been tri My mother would certainly with that.

Let me get back to the Benjamina and the effect it my morale. At first, I rath him. I liked the elegance contoured leaves, the sp branches, the vibrant gree budding leaves, the textu tall stem, the angular grac branches. It had int possibilities. I first becam of her strange attitude plants when I pretended to asleep and heard her swe in Raga Karaharapriya. never heard her sing so iously, so fetchingly, befo habit of lavishing e words and only on the Benjamina but also o tears, Begonia, Californ mine, Hawaiian ginger,

Humour

My wife's secret love

By A.F. Ashtamudi

Ever since we escaped from the freezing colds and diabolical winters of Canada in order to luxuriate in the relative warmth of California, my wife has been enjoying a secret love-affair.

I have harboured suspicions all along, but I never did have an inkling of the intensity of her relationship, until just recently. Now that my jealousy has been aroused, I am no longer ashamed to publicly confess that her true love is green plants. It has probably been a signal flaw in her character throughout our relationship. It must have lain dormant during our sojourn in Canada, only to be resurrected in sunny California. The climate was not conducive to the awakening of such ardors. Arctic blasts from somewhere north of Toronto quickly dampened any such incipient desires. Here in California, the vegetation is comparatively lush; the weather, even in winter, does not chill and crack the bones. And so her love has flowered and flourished while I languish hopelessly, helplessly, in despair.

It was only after she moved this six foot six inch Ficus Benjamina right into our small cluttered bedroom that I began to feel a bit uneasy. I was offended by this attack on our privacy. A disquiet settled into the ordinary, dull, humdrum, momentum of our life. Finally the disquiet progressed from a fretful fit of depression to disgrace and despair. Which is where I am now. My vaunted ego has been crushed. My sensitivity has been pricked. The not-so-subtle tauntings of my friends have become a torture. Every day I watch the house get greener as I, in turn, become green with envy. I get the eerie feeling that somehow I do not belong here. Her affection for plants is truly astounding. I see her caress, talk, fondle, bathe, sing, and feed them quite regularly. And each time I witness such obvious display of emotions, I am naturally stricken with pangs of jealousy. What bugs me is that in her scale of attention, I fall somewhere in line after the weeds and the crabgrass that generously dot our landscape.

Medard Boss, A German psychiatrist, once claimed that the Indian personality is dominated by a narcissistic tendency. Phillip Spratt who studied the 'Hindu Personality' in depth, also arrived at the very same conclusion. I see nothing odd in journeying through life with a healthy narcissistic impulse. But it is my Wife who keeps reminding me in no uncertain terms that this despair and jealousy that I have lately been exhibiting is rooted in my latent narcissism. She even claims that I am simply on an ego trip. It is more likely that my ego has been tripped. My mother would certainly agree with that.

Let me get back to the Ficus Benjamina and the effect it has on my morale. At first, I rather liked him. I liked the elegance of his contoured leaves, the spreading branches, the vibrant green of the budding leaves, the texture of his tall stem, the angular grace of his branches. It had interesting possibilities. I first became aware of her strange attitude towards plants when I pretended to be half asleep and heard her sweet voice in Raga Karaharapriya. I had never heard her sing so melodiously, so fetchingly, before. Her habit of lavishing endearing words not only on the Ficus Benjamina but also on Baby tears, Begonia, California Jasmine, Hawaiian ginger, Morning glory, and ladies slipper so early in the morning was enough to wake me up. Once I saw her kneeling respectfully beside her favourite plant, candle in hand, rubbing it tenderly between her palms and offering solace to its browning leaves. Another morning I awoke with an excruciating pain on the big toe of my left foot (which was later diagnosed as gout). The agony was unbearable and I almost reached for the cleaver inorder to sever the painful extremity with one quick blow. I begged for her to come out of her plant chanting and alleviate my misery. She replied, without batting an eyelid "your foot can wait, my plants can't".

That did it. That was the ultimate insult. If I were a camel, I would have said that it was the last straw on my back! For the first time I realized that I was not the most important item in my wife's life. It was a terribly unsettling jolt. My ego was bruised. It turned my mind from melancholy sourness to thoughts of bitter revenge.

My revenge took several turns. First I tried saying nasty things to the plants. As I passed by one of them I would mutter obscenities. Of course I did not raise my voice very much. I had to be circumspect; very subdued. I tried this in all the three Indian languages that I am familiar with. However my limited vocabulary was a severe handicap. Next I tried to pinch off leaves and budding shoots from the tips of some of those luxuriant growers like Heavenly Bamboo and Wandering Jew. The effect was quite odd. Their growth seemed to accelerate with each surreptitious pinch. Perhaps my pinching had the effect of pruning. Once I was caught in the act by my keenly observant daughter, who happens to be an unaccredited Botanist of minor merit. I told her that it was actually an experiment in plant propagation and stuck the broken twig in a tumbler of hard water. Eventually, they too sprouted leaves and roots. Clearly, it was a losing battle. I was not only swamped by a variety of rare tropical plants having rare tropical diseases, but also such vicious species as Cacti and Ivy of variegated hue.

They kept running over rugs, climbing walls, and casting eerie shadows at night. Oftentimes I imagined prowlers stalking the foliage at night. I had nightmares of sinuous snakes with bared fangs and upraised hoods crawling under my bed. I thought I heard bats hurtling through the bedroom uttering chilly cries. I even heard frogs croaking from underneath the soaking wet Boston Fern. Or was it my fevered imagination working at high pitch? The barest of thin lines separated me from insanity.

In sheer desperation I secretly began introducing large doses of sambhar powder and garam masala into the diet of our houseplants. I told my wife it was a new variety of houseplant fertilizer containing an extra dose of vitamin B12 called 'much more'. I was hoping that it would be potent enough to wither them away. I danced with devilish delight at the thought of seeing these plants succumb to my wiles. Once again Man would stand triumphant over vegetation! Or so I thought.

Its been a month since the Sambhar treatment and the only effect has been that the plants have shown a certain restraint in growth. I think they are hibernating. The calm before the storm. There is absolutely no sign of the slow and sure death that I had foolishly anticipated. Today I faintly recall some of the experiments that Jagdish Chandra Bose conducted on plant growth. I realize now that my dance macabre was a trifle premature.

Anytime I go into the bathroom I notice a new species thriving on the floor, on the shelves, or right in the tub. I find that I have to execute one of those classic Kathakali movements in order to be able to do my daily routines, without stamping on these ubiquitous Cacti. Tropical plants can survive only under conditions of high humidity says my Wife. So nowadays I take my shower amidst a veritable greenhouse. There is one advantage. I can stretch my hands, reach at a bunch of coriander leaves and chew on them. It makes the mouth and the bath refreshing.

I have tried various strategies recently. A bottle of sour milk, a half can of stale pineapple juice, a teaspoon of pickling vinegar, and a tablespoon of tabasco sauce. No success as yet. How these plants can take so much abuse from my hands and still survive would be a profound subject for dissertation by some ambitious young plant biochemist. Very soon I shall be trying Human style hot and sour soup, and a bengali fish curry, whose potency is legendary. I see all this as a question of sheer survival; the survival of the meanest.

New rouble rate

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (UNI) - India and Soviet Union resolved their four-year-old dispute over the rupee-rouble exchange rate when they signed a protocol November 24, Finance Minister H.M. Patel told the Lower House of Parliament.

According to details presented to Parliament here the new exchange rate is Rs. 10 per rouble.

The new exchange rate, which comes into effect from the date of signing of the protocol, will apply to all existing and future credit agreements and commercial transactions in roubles between the Soviet Union and India.

Appointment

C. Thomas, placement officer with the Alberta Solicitor General's Department has been appointed to the management position of - Assistant Deputy Director. Mr. Thomas is a naturalized Canadian citizen hailing from Chengannur, Kerala State, India.

Panel investigates test tube baby

Calcutta (UNI) — The West Bengal branch of the Indian Medical Association and the Bengal Obstetrics and Gynaecological Society (BOGS) have urged the state government to include one expert from each of their organizations in the government-appointed six-member committee to inquire into the scientific report on Calcutta's test tube baby.

Dr. Dilip Roy, secretary of the state branch of IMA and also President of the BOGS said in an interview that he was making a written request to this effect to the director of health services. "We feel our representatives should be on the committee since the claim has taken a controversial turn", he added.

The IMA and the society will hold the adjourned scie symposium on December Entry would be restricted invitees. Dr. Subhas Mukh and his three associates, engineered the birth of the ba will again be invited to exp the methods they had adopte

The first scientific sympos on the test tube baby, held November 18, ended in a confusion and chaos.

Dr. Subhas Mukherjee, was the main speaker at symposium, later compared the hazard and said it was aimed at heckling him and colleagues.

On the other hand the med scientists who attended symposium felt that Dr. Muk jee had cleverly evaded "whe want to know".

Commonwealth award for scientist

New Delhi (IBS) — A four-member team comprising Dr. D.R. Bhumla, Dr. L.P. Abrol, Dr. J.S.P. Yadev and K.S. Dargan of the Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal, has been awarded the Commonwealth Scientific Institue's Guiness Award for their outstanding work on salt-affected soils.

The Award carries a cash p of 1,000 pounds and is given the best scientific work Commonwealth countries in a discipline.

This is the first time that India has received this Award.

Less liquor sold

New Delhi, (UNI) — There has been an overall decrease in the consumption of liquor in Delhi.

Increased dry days and reduction in the number of liquor shops has resulted in a 17 per cent decrease in liquor consumption.

The information was given in a written answer in the Rajya Sabha (Lower House) by Minister of State for Education and Social Welfare Dhanna Singh Gulshan.

Handbook for Indians in Ottawa-Hull

The 1978 edition of 'The Handbook For Indians in Ottawa-Hull' is now ready and is available at all Indian Stores in Ottawa. For further information call Mrs. Renuka Sahay at 829-8616.

Clive's house

Calcutta, Dec. 11 (UNI) - Has any treasure remained hidden somewhere in the dilapidated Lord Clive's house at Gorabazar, near Dum Dum on the eastern fringe of the city?

This century-old on-going mystery has provoked the city's archaeologists to unravel it.

Prem Sabha

New Delhi, (UNI) — An India-Pakistan Prem Sabha (goodwill association) has been set up in Karachi.

A Press release of the Sabha said in Karachi that Prem Sabha, a non-political organization, would work for international brotherhood, human dignity and world culture.

Rais Amrohi, a well-known poet-journalist, is its president.

Soni replaces Suri

P.N. Soni has taken charge as the new head of the Indian Consulate Office in Toronto. He has served at the Indian Embassy in Washington in 1970-73 and in Thailand from 1973-76. He comes to Toronto from the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

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Suitable match for a handsome young Hindu widower, 26, civil engineer. Uncles well settled in Canada. Reply M-1468, The Canadian India Times.

Handsome Punjabi young man, 24, educated, healthy, 5'-6". Brother settled in Canada, seeks slim, pretty, immigrant bride. Serious replies, telephone number, photograph appreciated. M-1477, The Canadian India Times.

Charming professional Punjabi lady, 34, 5'-4" wants to marry unattached professional Indian 34-40. M-1478 or phone (416)-494-2796 - The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited for a well-settled professional Gujarati (preferably Jain) for 27 years, 5'-3", medico sister. Write to M-1479, The Canadian India Times or call (416) 683-4112.

Wanted handsome, tall, Sikh, Canadian or American citizen for a beautiful, slim, divorced girl, settled in Canada, Age 21, height 5'-5". Doctor, lawyer or engineer preferred for very early marriage. Reply with photo to M-1480, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for pretty North Indian Hindu girl, 30, lived in Bombay mostly. Working as teacher. Father doctor and brothers well settled in Canada. Please reply with full particulars and photo M-1481, The Canadian India Times.

An actress-calibre, 5'-8" tall, slim, M.A., 2½ years, Punjabi Sikh girl invites matrimonial correspondence from professionals. Brother, sister well-settled in Canada. Write to M-1482, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for a pretty attractive Sikh girl, 27, M.A. in English and B.Ed. Family members well-settled in Canada and States. Girl is landed immigrant in U.S.A. Please send in details along with recent photograph to Canadian India Times M-1483.

Doctor match for Hindu Punjabi doctor girl, passed E.C.F.M.G, age 25, height 5'-5". Write with full particulars and a recent photograph to M-1484, TheCanadian India Times.

An educated handsome match for a Punjabi girl, 22, slim, pretty, 5'-6" tall. British passport holder, belonging to highly respectable family of Kenya. Write with full particulars and recent photograph to M-1485, The Canadian India Times.

Match for Agrawal Jain doctor, 27, citizen, visiting London, India this summer. Excellent family. No bars. Early marriage. Please enclose immediately returnable photograph M-1486, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a beautiful match for a medico boy, 25 yrs, ECFMG, presently visiting Canada. If interested, call (519)-354-8474.

Wanted suitable match for Canadian Jat Sikh gentleman, 30, 5'-4" tall, M.A. M.Ed, well settled in Canada. Girl is the main consideration. Girl should be at least 5'-4". Early marriage. Caste no bar. Write in details with photograph to G.S. Sidhu, 1321 Bernard Road, Windsor, Ontario. N8Y 4K2.

Suitable match for a beautiful Roman Catholic Malayali girl, 23, nurse from well reputed family of professional people such as lawyers, doctors and professors. Uncle is a Canadian citizen and well established in Canada. Serious enquiries from Roman Catholic young men only, with full details to Box 3071, Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Correspondence invited from immigrant/citizen boys for my sister, 25, Punjabi Bhramin, M.A., tall and good looking. Early marriage. Write with full details and photograph M-1473, The Canadian India Times.

Sportsmen insurance

New Delhi (IBS) — The Government has decided to insure competitors undergoing training in coaching camps at the Netaji Subhas Institute of Sports, Patiala, for certain international competitions against temporary, partial or total disablement or death.

They will be insured for Rs. 100,000 each for six months from the start of the first coaching camp till their return to India after participation in the Asian Games, Commonwealth Games or Olympic Games, as the case may be. The first to benefit will be contigent for the Asian Games at Bagkok in December.

Shekhar, Narain manhandled

Muzaffarpur, (UNI) — Ruling Janata party President Chandra Shekhar and former Health Minister Raj Narain were manhandled by a group of anti-reservationists students at the L.S. College here.

The two leaders were on their way to Samastipur for campaigning for the party candidate in the Lok Sabha by-election.

Both the leaders received "minor injuries" and Mr. Raj Narain lost his scarf.

The leaders were attacked at a university lecturers residence where they had gone for lunch.

Soon the police reached the scene and dispersed about a 200-strong mob and also detained two students who were released later.

The students are agitating against the Bihar government decision of fixing twentysix per cent job quota for backward classes.

President's rule

New Delhi (IBS) - The two Union Territories of Mizoram, in East India, and Pondicherry, in South India, were brought under President's rule following instability in the two states as a result of the ruling parties being riven by factional fights.

word above typed on paper as riven could it be driven

JANATA NOMINEE BECOMES BOMBAYS MAYOR

Bombay (IBS) — Rajabha Chimbulkar of the Janata Party was elected Mayor of Bombay defeating Mrs. Indumati Patel of Congress, by 58 votes to 46.

Chibulkar's elevation follows the success of the Janata Party and its allies in the civic elections in which they won 85 seats in a house of 140. Three independents appeared to have voted for the Janata nominee.

Hotel bills in rupees

New Delhi (UNI): The Government has decided to permit foreigners to pay their hotel bills in rupees instead of in foreign exchange.

Stating this in the Lower House of Parliament (Rayja Sabha) today, Finance Minister H.M. Patel said, this decision, taken in the interest of promoting tourism, would be given effect to shortly.

Mountaineering curbed

New Delhi (IBS) — The Indian authorities propose to mountaineering in the Nanda Devi sanctuary to protect environment in the area.

Indian mountaineering Foundation chief H.C. Sarin said that the move was contemplated because the area at present was in a poor way. Some of its beautiful flowers and plants had over the years vanished and trekkers had left the routes littered with rubbish.

Sarin said that all those who had booked peaks in the area for the next two years had been asked to review their applications. These included an American expedition in memory of Miss Nanda Devi, who died while trying to scale her namesake peak a few years ago.

"We are not entertaining any fresh applications for the present, Sarin said.

Giri for Statute revision

Madras (IBS) - Former President of India V.V. Giri has suggested a revision of the Constitution providing for a presidium at the Centre for governing the country in the context of the present "chaotic state affairs and uncertain political conditions."

In a statement here, Giri said that the Constitution should be revised to make it more viable for the ultimate acceleration of succour to the poverty stricken masses and their speedy rehabilitation besides protecting them from dictatorial tendencies and the threat of dictatorship itself."

Giri said that removal from the statute book of the word "Harijan" or any other form of defamatory reference was a "must" as it affected the dignity of the citizen.

Kashmir to go dry

New Delhi (IB) - The Kashmir Government has agreed in principle to the policy of total prohibition within four years, according to an official spokesman here.

It has decided not to grant licences for opening new liquor shops and bars, raised sales tax on liquor and increased penalty for violation of excise laws in certain cases. It also proposes to close liquor shops in areas inhibited largely by industrial labour.

"The fact that every citizen is equal in the eyes of the Constitution should be clearly emphasised", he added.

Collaboration sought

New Delhi, Nov. 27 (UNI) — A British mission representing major hardware engineering goods industries arrived here today to explore the scope for British collaboration with Indian companies in the construction of new generation fertiliser plants.

According to Sir Cyril Pitts, leader of the 16-member mission, the talks will be held both with government leaders and captains of industry in the private sector. The mission has representatives of some of the best companies of the world.

Cell visited

Nagpur (IBS) — President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy visited the "B" class cell in the Amravati Central Jail where he was detained during the "Quit India" movement in 1942.

The cell has the distinction of seeing two of its inmates occupy the topmost position in the country. President of the Indian Republic the other being V.V. Giri.

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